

# Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland

Northern Ireland · Charity number 101049

## Details

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**Status** Received

**Registered** 2014-11-19

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 13 Vicarage Gardens  
Antrim  
Bt41 4JP  
BT41 4JP

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**Website** [www.antrim.connor.anglican.org](http://www.antrim.connor.anglican.org)

## Activities

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**Purposes:** The principal function is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Being open to and engaging with society as a whole and offering support for those needing help is fundamental to the practical delivery of the tenets of Christianity. As a result of activity in pursuit of the advancement of the Christian religion, the Parish has custody of a large body of records, materials and artefacts of significance to the cultural heritage, the maintenance of which is undertaken by the Parish as a secondary charitable purpose.

**What the charity does:** The advancement of religion, The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

**How the charity works:** Religious activities

**Who the charity helps:** General public

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£344,691	£210,682	£-7,527	4

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## Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Brian Neill		
Cecil Barton		
Claire Thompson		
Colin Brooks		
Cynthia Cherry Mbe Jp		
David Tate		
Dr Brian Ford		
Irene Gates		
Jacqueline Sarah Adams		
John McMaster		
Miss Carol Moore		
Mr David Mclean		
Mr J.W.Wallace Ba		
Paul Smyth		
Rev Peter Blake		
Sheila Thompson		
Stephen Kelly		
Sylvia Barton		
The Ven Dr S R Mcbride		
Wendy Smyth		
William Hurst		

**Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101049

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# Accounts

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**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**  
**Annual report and financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2024**

**Charities Number: NIC101049**

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024**

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## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### References and administrative details

Charity Name: All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Charity Registration Number: NIC101049

Contact Address: All Saints' Parish Centre  
Railway Street  
Antrim  
BT41 4AE

### Trustees

#### Trustees from 01-01-2024 – 31-12-2024

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Rev Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Stephen Kelly, John McMaster, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford, Irene Gates, John Wallace, David McClean and Carol Moore.

#### Trustees approving this report

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Rev Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Stephen Kelly, John McMaster, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford, Irene Gates John Wallace, David McClean and Carol Moore.

### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Curate Assistant:	Rev Claire Thompson
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Miss Carol Moore
People's Church Warden:	Mr David McClean

### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
49 Wellington Street  
Ballymena  
BT43 6AD

## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for All Saints' Parish Church Antrim for the year ended 31 December 2024.

All Saints' Parish Church, Antrim, is situated in the heart of Antrim town, and the Parish Centre is one minute's walk away in Railway Street.

Correspondence can be addressed to:

The Vicar, Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride  
The Vicarage  
10 Vicarage Gardens  
ANTRIM, BT41 4JP

Matters of a financial nature can be addressed to:

Mrs. Brian Neill  
c/o All Saints' Parish Centre  
18 Railway Street  
ANTRIM, BT41 4AE

### **Purpose**

The principal function of the Parish is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, social and ecumenical.

All the functions of the Parish relate to the advancement of religion through holding regular worship and communicating with and caring for parishioners of all ages especially the sick and elderly and others in our community.

Additionally, the Parish is entrusted with the care of numerous historical items, and the maintenance of these assets, along with the preservation of the various buildings, constitutes a secondary charitable purpose. All properties and valuable items are fully insured and undergo regular revaluation.

### **Governance, Structure and Management**

#### **Governance**

The principal document for the governance of Antrim Parish is Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, which governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. Diocesan Regulations are also issued periodically, and these interpret some aspects of the Constitution where that responsibility has been delegated by the General Synod to Diocesan Councils and Synods.

The other major factor in parish governance is civil law, particularly Health and Safety, Child Protection legislation, Safeguarding Trust regulations, and Employment and Management procedures for lay staff. For example, as children and young adults are important in our Charity, we carry out the necessary checks on all youth leaders and we are fully compliant with the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust.

A dedicated Health and Safety team oversees the compliance of all Parish Centre users with the established Conditions of Use, ensuring strict adherence to Fire Evacuation procedures and the completion of necessary Risk Assessments. Regular Fire Evacuation drills are conducted for both the Church and Parish Centre, with procedural updates implemented whenever recommendations for improvements are made.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### Structure

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18, and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the parish; this allows them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry.

Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once a year, and at the Annual General Vestry meeting, held at Easter time, the Select Vestry members are elected. The Select Vestry hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually, and there is no limit to the number of terms that they may serve. The members of the Select Vestry make up the Charity Trustees.

#### Trustees:

Chair: The Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride

Jacqueline Adams

Cecil Barton

Sylvia Barton

Rev Peter Blake

Colin Brooks

Cynthia Cherry

Brian Ford

Irene Gates

Willaim Hurst

Stephen Kelly

David McClean

John McMaster

Carol Moore

Brian Neill

Paul Smyth

Wendy Smyth

David Tate

Rev Claire Thompson

Sheila Thompson

John Wallace

#### Management

The Select Vestry meets regularly at times fixed by the members, with the Vicar or the Rev Blake in the Chair. Ad hoc meetings may be called by the Vicar when necessary.

The primary responsibility of the Select Vestry is to ensure the ministry and witness of the Parish is maintained, developed, and safeguarded both legally and financially. The Vestry is specifically tasked with overseeing the administration of the Parish finances as well as the maintenance and care of the buildings, both internally and externally ("Finance, Fabric and Furnishings"). Additionally, the Select Vestry acts as the legal employer for all lay staff and holds responsibility for Health and Safety, insurance and the care of the Parish's assets.

The Select Vestry may delegate responsibility for aspects of its work to persons or to sub-committees, who report back to the Select Vestry. The Finances are managed by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Brian Neill, who reports back to the other Trustees at Vestry meetings monthly or in-between if necessary. The Trustees are updated with the financial situation at each meeting.

The security and safeguarding of all financial resources are paramount to the Trustees, with all money being counted under dual control.

The Church of Ireland organises 5-yearly inspections of its buildings which are carried out by a qualified architect or conservation specialist with a qualification in historic buildings conservation. Parishes are supplied with a Quinquennial Inspection Report which may contain recommendations for repairs. As a parish we are diligent in our compliance to carry out the recommended repairs. In recent years, following receipt of our Quinquennial Reports from the Diocesan Surveyor, Chris McCollum, we have undertaken improvements such as the erection of external safety railings, internal balustrading in the church gallery and improvements in the vicarage.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

In view of all the various organisations that utilise the Parish Centre (see Public Benefit section), and events such as funeral teas, a catering team has been formed. All team members hold HABC Level 2 in Food Safety in Catering, which is regularly updated. The local Council conducts regular inspections, and the Parish Centre currently holds a rating of 5.

#### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Curate Assistant:	Rev Claire Thompson
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Miss Carol Moore
People's Church Warden:	Mr David McClean

#### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson & Wilson, Chartered Accountants  
22/30, Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena. BT43 7AA

#### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
49 Wellington Street  
Ballymena  
BT43 6AD

#### Finances

##### *Income*

Our income from parishioners and visitors remained at encouraging levels. The Freewill Offering (including Gift Aid) totalled £136,676 (2023: £137,050), and Fabric Fund (including Gift Aid) came to £20,114 (2023: £23,121 included a one-off donation of £4,000). Loose donations on the collection plate at the Sunday and Wednesday services came to a total of £2,291 (2023: £2,647).

The parishioners continue to donate 20p coins in "Smartie tubes" and the proceeds contribute to our annual donation to CMSI, which helps fund students training to be church ministers at the Kitwe Theological Seminary. In 2024 the Smartie tubes total was £951 (2023: £1,124).

The "Extra Mile" bucket continues to gather in coins, banknotes and even cheques at the back of the church. At the start of 2023 we were still collecting for ShelterBox; in February and March we collected for the Cathedral chair appeal; and from April onwards we collected for the Leprosy Mission NI, interrupted in October by collecting for Greenisland Parish Church which had suffered from a fire. As a result of this ongoing work, in 2024 we collected £2,278, but with contributions made in 2023 we were able to hand over £1,000 to ShelterBox, £150 to the Cathedral appeal, £500 to Greenisland and £1,400 to the Leprosy Mission.

Any small decrease in the contributions above is far outweighed by the congregation's magnificent response to the appeal for funding for the tower repair. Parishioners donated £43,508, and Gift Aid increased that to £49,960. There were fundraising events like Quiz Night, donations from Antrim Historical Society and the local Orange Order lodge, and a first instalment grant of £86,354 from National Heritage Lottery, meaning that £138,352 has been added to our bank account. Work on the tower should start to take place in 2025.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

A total of £1,624 was donated by several individuals and families to general church funds, including a £1,000 Harvest donation, a £200 Remembrance Day donation, and a \$50 donation from an American tourist. Interest on endowments brought in £4,133. Grants totalling £2,491 for Youth Work were received from the Education Authority, and a grant of £600 was received from RCB towards our young people's evangelical trip to Spain. A grant of £500, received from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, was used to help pay for the Evergreens' Christmas Lunch, and we acknowledge our thanks to the Council for this contribution.

Special collections were lifted at four church services, with the proceeds being passed on as appropriate:

March: £340 raised at the midweek Lenten service for the Rural Deanery project.

June: £700 raised at the Mothers Union area service.

October: £506 raised at our Family Service for NI Hospice.

November: £365 raised at the Town Carol Service for the Mayor's Charities.

The Parish Centre is used by a number of organisations, including Starburst Theatre School and the Contact Centre. The financial contributions towards the running expenses of the Parish Centre totalled £7,168 (2023: £7,390). Two concerts were held in the Church, and we received donations totalling £250.

Our property in Innishmoyne realised a rental of £10,545. There was no outlay on repairs this year. The usual expenses of management fees, rates and insurance totalled £2,235, leaving a surplus for the year of £8,310.

#### **Expenditure**

The bulk of our expenditure is on "normal" expected items, such as salaries and wages; utility bills for electricity, gas, oil, water, telephone; buildings and contents insurance; buildings maintenance.

In 2024, there were a few items which were not run-of-the-mill:

£1,426 for a new printer/scanner for the parish centre office.

£1,968 for trimming trees at the vicarage.

£9,016 for the new sound/broadcast system in the church.

£3,180 for the upgrade to the disabled toilet.

£7,978 to Corish Film & Video for the promotional church video.

#### **Annual donations**

The healthy nature of our finances allowed us to continue our tradition of making Christmas donations to a variety of Church organisations and missions, such as the Chaplaincy at Queen's University Belfast, the Chaplaincy at the Missions to Seamen and the Church of Ireland Youth Department. Eleven donations ranging from £260 to £410, and totalling £3,110, were made.

The third annual payment of £1,800, to pay for tuition fees for two students studying at the Theological College in Zambia, was paid via CMS Ireland in April. The Select Vestry voted to extend these payments for a further three years.

The first of a new set of three annual payments of £3,000 each to Muckamore Parish Development Association (as described in the 2021 report) was made in December.

A donation of £750 was made to St. Anne's Cathedral in response to their cathedral chairs appeal.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### *In summary*

The financial situation at the end of 2024 is:

Current account in credit by £19,657.50  
Deposit account in credit by £259,490.99

The Deposit account is designated to cover urgent maintenance and repairs to Church properties as advised by the Diocesan architect. At the end of 2024 it also holds the donations and grants received for the repair work to the Church tower; this work should take place during 2025.

All other Assets and Liabilities are stated in the Annual Report and all properties are vested in the RCB and owned by the Parish.

All legitimate invoices and requests for payment in 2024 were paid in full when received.

#### **Public Benefit**

The charity Trustees have carefully reviewed the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that our activities align with the charity's purposes and provide meaningful benefits to our beneficiaries. A detailed overview of our activities and their associated benefits is provided below.

The primary function of the charity is the advancement of religion, the provision of spiritual care for the elderly and infirm, and the development of younger people within the community. To fulfil our public benefit objectives, we engage in regular worship, outreach efforts within the community, and a variety of social and fundraising activities throughout the year.

#### **The Church**

**Church Services** - a full programme of services has been led by the parish clergy team including a monthly Family Service in the Parish Centre on the third Sunday of each month, offering a more informal form of worship aimed at younger families in the parish. This service is preceded by refreshments, giving parishioners an opportunity to chat in a relaxed atmosphere. The parish also took part in the annual 'Big Coffee Break' at the Family Service in October. This was well supported by parishioners, raising £506 for the NI Hospice.

The parish continues to see an increase in the size of its congregation, with several new families from different ethnic backgrounds joining us. A common comment is that an exploratory visit to church had met with such a warm and friendly welcome that the newcomers decided to make All Saints' their place of worship.

**Parish Choir** – the mixed-voice Parish Choir leads the singing at all services, offering special music on feast days and other significant occasions. Its members range in age from 11 to over 80 years, reflecting the inclusive and intergenerational spirit of the parish. The choir rehearses every Sunday morning from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. and continues to be an integral part of worship at all church services, under the expert direction of choirmaster and organist Mr Alex McBride. In December, choir members visited two local residential homes to sing Christmas carols and share the message of Christmas with the residents.

**Wednesday morning services** – the midweek service of Holy Communion continued throughout 2024, preceded by an informal time for coffee and conversation. A regular and faithful group of parishioners attend each week, finding both spiritual nourishment and social connection through the shared experience of the Wednesday morning service.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### The Church Calendar

**January Activities** – the New Year began with a number of meaningful events and initiatives within the parish. A Mothers' Union (MU) Enrolment Service was held on 10th January, along with a special dedication of the new preaching scarf for the MU All Ireland Chaplain, Archdeacon Stephen McBride. On 15th January, a new seven-week Bible study series began, focusing on The Chosen (Series 3), offering fresh insights into the life and ministry of Jesus. The Smartie Tube Appeal also continued, encouraging parishioners to fill empty Smartie tubes with 20p coins or £1 coins to support theological students training for ministry in the Church of Zambia. With an annual cost of £600 per student, the parish remains committed to sponsoring two students for the coming years.

**February Activities** – the Rural Deanery's mid-week Lenten services began on Ash Wednesday, offering a time of reflection and spiritual growth. On 7th February, the parish celebrated Annabella Hayes Day, the founder of MU in Ireland, with a special Zoom service featuring guest speaker Baroness Ritchie, along with the All Ireland MU Chaplain, Archdeacon Stephen McBride, Rev. Claire Thompson, and the All Saints' Parish choir and organist. A fundraising Parish Quiz was held on the 16th at the local Golf Club, raising over £500 for parish activities. St Anne's Cathedral's 120 Chairs Appeal was introduced in the parish, with the Dean of Belfast appealing to parishes and individuals to support the £75,000 campaign to replace the original wooden chairs at St Anne's Cathedral. The new chairs are to be in place for the Cathedral's 120th Anniversary of the consecration of the Nave on 2nd June 2024. All Saints' Parish contributed by purchasing six chairs in support of the appeal, alongside individual parishioners who chose to purchase chairs in memory of loved ones.

**March Activities** – March was a spiritually rich and community-focused month for All Saints' Parish. On 1st March, members of the parish attended the World Day of Prayer, hosted by Greystone Presbyterian Church, an annual global event that unites people in prayer and reflection, focusing on the voices and experiences of women around the world. The parish clergy team led a special Palm Sunday service, A Holy Land Walk with Jesus, combining picture, word, and song to bring the events of Holy Week to life. Throughout Lent, mid-week services were hosted by churches across the Rural Deanery and were well attended by All Saints' parishioners. During Holy Week, joint evening services were held with other local churches, including High Street Presbyterian, Antrim Methodist, and the Christian Fellowship, fostering ecumenical connection. On Good Friday, parishioners joined the wider community in the 17th annual Walk of Witness, a powerful event that continues to promote unity across the town. In the evening of Good Friday, All Saints hosted a moving Tenebrae service. Easter Day began with an early morning Holy Communion service by the shore of Lough Neagh, followed by breakfast in the Parish Centre. Later, a joyful Family Holy Communion service was held in the church at 11:30 a.m. Both Easter services were memorable and well attended, marking a meaningful end to the Lenten season.

**April Activities** – the Annual Easter General Vestry Meeting was held on 8th April, providing an opportunity for parishioners to reflect on the past year and look ahead. On 11th April, the Mothers' Union members participated in a digital prayer journey, uniting members in faith and reflection. A fundraising Beetle Drive organised by the 5th Antrim Scouts took place on 16th April in support of the Antrim & Newtownabbey Food Bank, offering a fun evening while supporting a vital local cause. On 21st April, branch members attended the Mothers' Union Annual Festival Service at St Anne's Cathedral. Later in the month, a new Alpha Course began - an eight session journey exploring the basics of the Christian faith, with an Away Day on 15th June at Ballycastle Parish Centre.

**May Activities** – from 12th to 18th May, parishioners supported Christian Aid Week, helping to make a global impact through prayer and giving. On 14th May, the Evergreens group enjoyed an afternoon of storytelling and music with special guest John Porter. The Connor Mothers' Union Songs of Praise Service took place on 19th May, featuring members' favourite hymns and raising funds for the Mums in May appeal, an All-Ireland project held every three years. The month also saw the launch of the "Extra Mile" project in support of The Leprosy Mission, highlighting how a donation of £24 can provide a full course of medication to cure one person of the disease. On 25th May, Mothers' Union members enjoyed a memorable outing to Brownlow House in Lurgan. To round off the month, a wine tasting evening was held at the local Golf Club, raising over £1,100 in support of the Tower Restoration Fund.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

**June Activities** – on 2nd June, parishioners attended a Eucharist of Thanksgiving at Belfast Cathedral to mark its 120th Anniversary. All Saints' Parish contributed by purchasing six of the new cathedral chairs, with additional personal donations made by individual parishioners. On 6th June, All Saints had the honour of hosting the All Ireland Holy Communion Service, which also marked the 90th anniversary of the local Mothers' Union branch. The service was led by the Bishop of Connor, the Rt Rev George Davison, and was attended by All Ireland President June Butler, Zonal Trustee Iris Sutor, Down & Dromore Diocesan President Mavis Thompson, and former members and friends from neighbouring branches. On 11th June, the National Churches Trust announced a grant of £34,985 awarded to All Saints to carry out urgent repairs to the south elevation of the church tower. This vital funding will help safeguard the historic building, ensuring it remains watertight, weatherproof, and open for community use. Rounding off the month, an Open Mic Concert was held in the Parish Centre on 14th June, raising £1,750 in support of the youth team's upcoming mission trip to Spain in July 2024, a joint venture with Ballyclare Parish.

The **summer months** brought vibrant energy and meaningful outreach to All Saints' Parish. From 22nd to 26th July, children from P1 to P7 took part in the All Stars Holiday Club, held each evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The club offered a fun and faith-filled programme of stories, games, and crafts, helping children explore what it means to belong to God's family. Also in July, three members of the Next Steps Youth Fellowship joined young people from St John's Ballyclare as an Exodus Ex-change team, travelling to a small church based in the city of Valls near Tarragona, Spain. Their focus was delivering a holiday Bible club for local children, but the team also visited families, participated in worship with a Spanish congregation, and supported local youth through street evangelism and sports ministry. It was a transformative experience that allowed the young people to grow in faith, connect with new cultures, and share the message of the gospel. On August 29th, the parish received notification that our application for the All Saints Tower project, "The Sky's the Limit," had been successful. The project has been awarded a generous grant of £172,708 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

**September Activities** – on 8th September, the Family Hog Roast and Gift Day brought together 125 parishioners to enjoy lunch and a time of fellowship, raising an impressive £31,000 on the day for the Tower and Spire Restoration Project. That same evening, a new initiative, Family Fun & Chat, launched with games, coffee, and conversation - offering a relaxed space for families to connect. On 11th September, the parish hosted its first visitor experience tour, welcoming members from other churches, local council representatives, and parishioners for a guided insight into the church's history. As part of the European Heritage Open Days, the church welcomed 34 visitors across 14th and 15th September. On 28th September, the parish launched All Saints' 'Blend' Breakfast, a bi-monthly social gathering at a local restaurant held on the fourth Saturday of the month. The month concluded with a joyful Songs of Praise service on 29th September, part of a new fifth-Sunday tradition, blending modern and traditional hymns with musical support from the Family Service band.

**October Activities** – on 13th October, the Harvest Thanksgiving service brought parishioners together to celebrate and reflect on God's provision. From 4th to 6th October, a group from the parish participated in Connor Takes the Castle, an exciting event that brought together young people from across the diocese for worship, teaching, karaoke, sports, and much more. On 20th October, the Family Service hosted a NI Hospice Big Break Coffee Morning, raising an impressive £506 to support the vital work of the Hospice in providing care for those in need. The month also saw the launch of the first of two Bible study sessions focused on the Book of Ruth.

**November Activities** – on 8th November, The Very Rev Dr. Houston McKelvey, former Dean of Belfast Cathedral, delivered a poignant lecture on the Antrim community members who served in the Second World War. The evening raised £410 for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. On 10th November, the parish hosted the Royal British Legion Annual Remembrance Service, to honour those who sacrificed their lives. The Antrim Community Choir Winter Concert on 23rd November was a delightful community event - held in the parish church and enjoyed by many. The Bible study series on the Book of Ruth continued with the second session on 27th November, deepening participants' understanding of the biblical text. The month also saw the Antrim Town Carol Service, attended by the Mayor of Antrim and local councillors, fostering a spirit of unity and celebration.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

On 30th November, several members of the Mothers' Union attended a Ladies' Breakfast at Antrim Methodist Church, further strengthening the bond between local churches.

**December Activities** – December was a month filled with music, community, and some unexpected challenges. On 5th December, the Lagan Camerata performed a beautiful music concert in the parish church. On 15th December, parishioners enjoyed a fun and relaxing movie night at the local cinema. The church was also honoured to host the Antrim Grammar School Christmas Carol Service on 17th December, a heartwarming event that brought the festive spirit to the parish. On 19th December, HIDDEN NI, a programme exploring Northern Ireland's lesser-known places, featured All Saints' Parish Church and Churchwarden Carol Moore, airing on UTV at 8:30 p.m. **Christmas Services** – throughout Advent, All Saints' Parish offers a full programme of services, including the Family Service of Carols for Christmas and the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight, as well as the very popular Christmas Eve service and First Holy Communion of Christmas. Every year, the Funday Club children take part in the Christmas Nativity play, which is performed during the Christmas morning service, bringing the story of Christ's birth to life for all to enjoy.

The month was marked by an unfortunate fire in the church building on 27th December, which resulted in significant smoke damage; however, thankfully, there were no injuries, and the church building sustained no structural harm.

### Other Parish Based Activities and Initiatives

**Bible Study & Alpha Course** – at the beginning of the year, parishioners gathered for a Bible study series based on The Chosen – Series 3, a powerful retelling of the life of Jesus and His followers. The sessions encouraged deep reflection, meaningful discussions, while exploring how faith can shape daily life. In April, a new Alpha Course was launched, guiding participants through eight sessions on the foundations of the Christian faith, culminating in an Away Day at Ballycastle Parish Centre in June. Later in the year, parishioners took part in a two-part Bible study on the Book of Ruth, offering further opportunity for spiritual growth and fellowship.

**WhatsApp** – the parish also has an 'active WhatsApp group' with the clergy team, where parishioners regularly comment on the United Christian Broadcaster's Word for Today daily devotional material or share their insights on the daily bible readings set out on the weekly News Sheet.

**Flower Guild** – the Church Flower Guild is made up of six dedicated volunteers who arrange fresh flowers each week for the church. This service is provided for parishioners and non-parishioners who wish to donate towards church flowers in memory of loved ones or to commemorate special events, such as anniversaries or birthdays. These thoughtful contributions are greatly appreciated by the clergy and those attending services. In 2024, the Flower Guild provided floral arrangements for several special services, including the Connor Diocesan Big Sing, the Monthly Diocesan All-Ireland MU Holy Communion Service, and the Remembrance Day Service.

**Electronic Tablets** – the parish continued its service providing electronic tablets for parishioners without internet access or the ability to attend church in person. A dedicated team of volunteers ensures that the Sunday service is downloaded onto the tablets, which are then distributed at the beginning of the week and collected later. This service has been greatly appreciated, allowing parishioners to "attend" church virtually. Additionally, it has fostered new friendships, with volunteers and recipients connecting on doorsteps during tablet deliveries and collections.

**Home visits** – pastoral visiting is the backbone of parish life. It enables the clergy to get to know new families in a more relaxed setting of their own homes. It is also a way to keep up regular contacts with those who are house bound. Times of illness or bereavement are occasions when pastoral visits are most effective. Our clergy team prioritise such visits and it is encouraging to know that many members of the parish provide less structured but equally effective visits to their fellow parishioners who are experiencing difficult times.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

**Extra Mile projects** – this year, the parish supported The Leprosy Mission, a charity founded 150 years ago by Irishman Wellesley Bailey. In 1986, the Vicar visited a Leprosy Hospital in Salur, Andhra Pradesh, an experience that powerfully illustrated the devastating impact leprosy continues to have in parts of the world where poverty, poor sanitation, and limited healthcare persist. While leprosy may seem like a disease of biblical times, it remains a harsh reality for many today. The Leprosy Mission works to prevent its spread, runs hospitals, supports affected families, and advocates for their needs. Just £24 can provide the life-changing multi-drug therapy needed to cure someone of the disease.

**Smartie Tube Appeal** – Smartie tubes were distributed at the services in early January, inviting parishioners to fill them with 20p pieces or £1 coins as we continue to support the students who are studying to be future clergymen in the Church of Zambia. The fees for one student are £600 per year and we are committed to sponsoring two students until 2027.

**Saints Alive & Sunday News Sheet** – Saints Alive, a quarterly magazine, is produced and distributed to parishioners, keeping them informed about all activities within the parish. In addition, a weekly News Sheet is created and circulated at the Morning Service, offering updates on current and upcoming parish events, as well as including weekly Bible readings. A copy of the News Sheet is also available on the parish website each week, ensuring that parishioners stay connected both in person and online.

**Food Bank project** – in partnership with the Oasis Group, the parish has collaborated with other churches in Antrim to support the Food Bank project. This initiative has provided essential practical care to families in the Antrim area facing challenging circumstances, offering much-needed support during difficult times.

**European Heritage Open Days (EHOD)** – a celebration of architecture, history and a chance for everyone to explore the wonderful shared cultural heritage right on our doorstep. As part of the 2024 event, All Saints' Parish Church opened its doors to the public on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September, with volunteer parishioners serving as visitor guides, helping to showcase the church's rich heritage.

### The Parish Centre

**All Saints' Parish Centre** – located in the heart of Antrim town, the Parish Centre serves as a versatile venue for a wide range of activities. It is used by parish groups, diocesan organisations, local primary schools, and external groups from the surrounding community, making it a central hub for both church and community events.

**Next Steps** - is a vibrant youth group for young people aged 11 to 18, meeting on Sunday evenings from September to June for fun, food, and fellowship. Thanks to generous support from the Education Authority and the Massereene and Ferrard Bequest [specifically designated for youth work], the group has enjoyed a range of outings, including trips to Glengormley Bowling Lanes, McDonald's, Go-Karting, and Antrim Omniplex. In July, several members attended Summer Madness, a major outdoor Christian youth festival, and one participant took part in Street Reach on the north coast as part of the 'Serve' course in Christian leadership. In September, the group joined the Connor Big Sing at Lisburn Cathedral, a lively event combining music and worship for young people across the diocese. A highlight of the year remains Connor Takes The Castle, where All Saints continues to field one of the largest parish groups. The year concluded with the Connor Youth Christmas Party at Monkstown Parish. At its heart, Next Steps is about helping young people build lasting friendships and grow in faith in a supportive and engaging environment.

Our Parish Youth groups are open and welcoming to all young people in the area, catering for all ages, and are well attended; indeed, at times a waiting list for new members has to be in place. The groups are made up of young people of diverse backgrounds, and all are made welcome.

**Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

**Scouts** – the 5th Antrim Scouts meet every Tuesday evening from September through June. The Scout section caters to young people aged 10½ to 14½ years, while the Explorer Scouts support those aged 14½ to 18 years. Both Scouts and Explorer Scouts follow a structured programme designed to help them explore the world around them, discover their own abilities, and understand the importance of health and fitness. Through their badge work, members develop a range of skills, including creativity, teamwork, leadership, and reflection on personal values and attitudes. Scouting offers young people the opportunity to be part of a team, build lasting friendships, and engage fully in the adventure and challenges of life.

The programme also promotes a strong sense of community responsibility, with members actively participating in fundraising initiatives for local causes. In 2024, the Scouts organised a fundraising Talent Night involving Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts, successfully raising funds for three local charities.

Whenever possible, activities are conducted outdoors to prepare for the highlight of the year –camping under canvas. During these sessions, Scouts learn practical skills such as pitching tents, planning and preparing camp menus, and cooking safely. They also gain essential knowledge in areas including food hygiene, safe food storage, vermin control, the Country Code, fire safety, and first aid.

**Beavers** – In 2024, there were ten members (boys and girls aged between 5 years 10 months and 7 years 11 months). The group was led by two dedicated female leaders, supported by two Explorer Scouts who developed their leadership abilities through Young Leader roles. Over the year, a total of 85 badges were awarded, reflecting a wide range of activities including teamwork, cooking, creativity, disability awareness, gardening, health and fitness, hobbies, international engagement, exploration, safety, sports, and hiking. The programme included numerous games and activities designed to foster enjoyment, peer connection, and the development of essential social skills among the young participants.

**Cubs** – the Cub pack includes nine members, supported by a dedicated team of three adult female leaders and three young male leaders - Explorer Scouts working towards their Young Leader badges. Over the past year, the Cubs earned an impressive 142 badges across a wide range of activities, including athletics, collectors, entertainment, home help, international awareness, art, astronomy, air activities, and faith development. Notably, one Cub achieved the prestigious Chief Scout Silver Award, the highest honour in the section. The group remains actively involved in the community, regularly carrying out litter-picks in Castle Gardens, the Lough Shore, and around the Parish Centre. Cubs also took part in various District events such as orienteering, hiking, football, canoeing, and team challenges. Joint activities with 1st Muckamore Cubs included a winter camp at Dunluce Castle, a District camp in May, and an educational visit to Lough Shore Rescue where they learned about life-saving techniques and the vital role the team plays in responding to emergencies and incidents in and around Lough Neagh. These experiences helped the Cubs build confidence, develop essential life skills, and grow through fun and challenge in a safe, supportive environment.

**Brownies** – the Brownie unit consists of ten girls aged between 4 and 7 years. The group meet every Monday evening from mid-September through to the end of April. The Brownie programme includes work towards a range of interest badges such as Construction, Book Lover, Animal Lover, and Family Tree. The Brownies also observe key Christian festivals, including Easter and Christmas. Each year, the girls renew their Brownie Promise – “I promise to think about my beliefs and to be kind and helpful” – at a special evening attended by parents, friends, and family.

**Rainbows** - the Rainbows meet on Monday evenings in the Parish Centre and cater to girls aged between 4 and 7 years. In 2024, there were twelve members who took part in a variety of crafts and games each week, guided by two committed leaders. These activities are designed to help the girls develop essential life skills in an enjoyable and engaging way. The Rainbows also work towards badges in line with the Girlguiding UK programme. Each girl renewed her Rainbow Promise during the year.

**The Funday Club** - the Funday Club meets in the Parish Centre on Sundays from 12:00 pm to approximately 12:45 pm, except on the third Sunday of each month when families are encouraged to attend the Family Service together. The Funday Club is aimed at children of primary school age, typically welcoming between 15 and 20 children aged 4 to 13 years.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

Each week, the children engage in a variety of fun, faith-based activities designed to help them learn about God and enjoy fellowship with one another. Activities include:

- Singing and dancing to children's worship songs
- Individual and team games linked to Bible stories
- Listening to Bible stories and watching related short videos
- Creating crafts connected to the day's lesson
- Group discussions and quizzes to reinforce learning
- Learning about global issues such as famine and life in other countries

Highlights of the year included the Christmas party, with special guest Santa, and the Nativity Pantomime led by the Play it by Ear team, performed by the children during the Christmas morning service.

Additionally, children are invited to take part in the Holiday Bible Club, held in either July or August. In 2024, the 'All Stars Holiday Club' ran from 21 to 26 July, encouraging children of Primary School age to "come along for stories, games and craft and to find out what it means to be part of God's Team". The Holiday Bible Club is open to all primary school aged children from the wider local community.

The Funday Club provides a valuable opportunity for children to explore Christian faith, ask questions, and build important social skills such as turn-taking, listening, and teamwork. While children are engaged in these enriching activities, parents can focus on the church service with the reassurance that their children are being well cared for and spiritually nurtured.

The leaders also find great fulfilment in their roles, enjoying the interaction with the children and feeling they are contributing meaningfully to the life and ministry of the church.

**All the organisations listed above** are open to young people from all backgrounds, not just those from our parish and we welcome children of all denominations or none. Each group meets on its designated day from September to June. Through their involvement in activities at the Parish Centre, we hope these young people will be drawn into deeper engagement with our church community and worship life.

**The Evergreens** - the Evergreens is a group for the 'young at heart' in the parish that meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 11 am in the Parish Centre, with 40 to 50 attendees. Open to all, the group enjoys a morning of fun and fellowship, starting with tea, coffee, and biscuits, followed by a guest speaker or musical entertainment and then a light lunch. An example of a guest speaker was Trevor Dawson who gave an engaging talk on beekeeping, sharing insights into the craft and offering members the chance to sample and purchase his homemade honey. He rounded off his visit with a lively performance on the bagpipes. The club operates for ten months of the year (closed in July and August) and organises two outings annually to local hotels or restaurants for lunch. All events are held in a Christian atmosphere, helping foster meaningful friendships and a sense of shared community.

**Tots 'n' Us** – meets weekly during school term time and is run by dedicated volunteers from our parish. The group provides a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for parents, carers, and their children from the local community.

The group regularly supports up to 25 adults and 30 children each Friday. A wide variety of activities are offered, including a different craft each week, free play with educational toys, and regular singing and rhyme sessions. These activities support children in developing social and confidence-building skills that prepare them for nursery or early years education. At the same time, the group offers adults an opportunity to connect, relax, build friendships, and access peer support.

Refreshments are provided: tea, coffee, and scones for adults; and toast, cheese, grapes, and water for the children. The group warmly welcomes families from all faiths and cultural backgrounds, treating everyone with equal respect and dignity. All beliefs and lifestyle choices are respected, and the group actively fosters a spirit of inclusion.

Over the past year, the group has supported several parents who needed someone to talk to about their child or personal circumstances. Volunteers have provided listening support and shared information about relevant

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

services and organisations when appropriate. We also support breastfeeding mothers and offer a private, quiet area for those who prefer a more discreet setting.

The volunteers themselves benefit significantly from their involvement in the group, forming strong friendships and support networks. As a gesture of appreciation, they enjoyed a social evening together at The Stone Hound this year, celebrating their shared commitment and contributions.

**Mothers' Union** - All Saints' Mothers' Union meets on the second Thursday of each month (excluding summer) and is attended by both members and non-members, with ages ranging from 40 to 98 years. For those unable to attend due to age or illness, regular visits are made to keep them connected. 2024 marked a special milestone, celebrating 90 years of the Mothers' Union in the parish. Key events included a 90th anniversary dinner at Dunadry Hotel, participation in the World Day of Prayer with local churches, attendance at the Festival Service in St Anne's Cathedral, and a special service in June with members from across Connor Diocese. The branch is a close-knit, supportive group, with members always eager to volunteer for MU projects and support parish events. The Vicar, Archdeacon Dr Stephen McBride, continues to be a great source of support.

**Bowling Club** - the Bowling Club meets every Wednesday afternoon in the Parish Centre and is open to all members of the local community, whether experienced bowlers or beginners. While the club is not currently involved in league or competitive bowling, it offers a relaxed time of fun and fellowship. Club bowls are provided, so there's no need to bring your own.

### Heritage

All Saints' Parish Church in Antrim was built in 1596 and has been described by Dr Paul Larmour, one of Ireland's leading architectural historians, as the finest example of an Elizabethan Gothic church in Ireland.

The church building continues to serve as the central venue for significant acts of civic worship.

Although the physical building is over 425 years old and has played a central role in the lives of so many people, we are grateful that it continues to be a place where the living stones, the disciples of Jesus, still come to worship and receive their spiritual guidance and direction. We take seriously our duty with regards the safe keeping of parish records and items of historical interest, and these can be viewed on request by interested parties.

**In conclusion**, All Saints' remains a thriving and vibrant church, supported by an industrious clergy team and well attended church services. The parish is in a sound financial position, and this report provides an overview of the activities and worship that takes place in the church, made possible through the efforts of a wide range of dedicated volunteers.

Our links with local churches help to ensure the Christian religion continues to thrive throughout the Antrim area. Antrim was once statistically Northern Ireland's, most sectarian town. Thankfully, through the lead of several local churches including All Saints, initiatives such as the Borough's Community Safety Partnership and the Civic Forum (which dealt with flags and emblems issues), the town is a more settled area, and incidents of a sectarian nature have diminished.

The clergy from All Saints, St Jude's Muckamore, Antrim Methodist, High Street Presbyterian, St Joseph's and St Comgall's parishes and Antrim Christian Fellowship Church meet quarterly for prayer breakfasts in the 'Top of the Town'. These gatherings help strengthen the cordial relationships between the clergy, evaluate the previous events and make plans for coming activities. In a town where each of these denominations are relatively strong and with full parish activities, it is encouraging that every effort is made to look beyond our own denominational boundaries. Our joint Holy Week services, Walk of Witness and Lough Shore Dawn Communion on Easter

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

Sunday serve as powerful symbols of the good relations that exist not only between the clergy but the parishioners of the above denominations.

We appreciate the tireless efforts of our clergy, who continue to innovate and develop ways to engage more people of all ages into following the way of Christ.

**Statement as to disclosure to our examiners**

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

**Independent Examiners**

The examiner, Ian Johnston (A.F.A.), for and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants, has indicated his willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning the reappointment was agreed by the Vestry on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025.

On Behalf of the Trustees



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Independent Examiners Report to the charity trustees of All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024, which are set out on pages 18 to 29.

#### **Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.


My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)

For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income</b>						
Donations & legacies	3	146,878	170,122	0	317,000	181,108
Other trading activities	4	17,963	0	0	17,963	18,140
Investments	5	3,578	0	2,975	6,553	7,931
Charitable activities	6	1,525	1,650	0	3,175	1,524
Other income		0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>169,944</b>	<b>171,772</b>	<b>2,975</b>	<b>344,691</b>	<b>208,703</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Generating funds	7	516	0	0	516	497
Charitable activities	7	165,118	27,669	3,610	196,397	176,474
Other costs	7	1,427	12,342	0	13,769	6,712
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>167,061</b>	<b>40,011</b>	<b>3,610</b>	<b>210,682</b>	<b>183,683</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before transfers</b>		<b>2,883</b>	<b>131,761</b>	<b>(635)</b>	<b>134,009</b>	<b>25,020</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>1,354</b>	<b>(3,799)</b>	<b>2,445</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>4,237</b>	<b>127,962</b>	<b>1,810</b>	<b>134,009</b>	<b>25,020</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment assets		36,061	0	1,805	37,866	2,114
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>40,298</b>	<b>127,962</b>	<b>3,615</b>	<b>171,875</b>	<b>27,134</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>148,094</b>	<b>910,230</b>	<b>116,954</b>	<b>1,175,278</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>188,392</b>	<b>1,038,192</b>	<b>120,569</b>	<b>1,347,153</b>	<b>1,175,278</b>
<b>Broken down as:</b>						
General account fund		188,392	1,036,705	120,569	1,345,666	1,174,072
Affiliation accounts funds		0	1,487	0	1,487	1,206
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>188,392</b>	<b>1,038,192</b>	<b>120,569</b>	<b>1,347,153</b>	<b>1,175,278</b>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Position / (Balance Sheet) as at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	780,000	780,000
Investment Properties	11	110,000	110,000
Investments	12	166,592	128,726
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>1,056,592</u>	<u>1,018,726</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	13	17,453	21,994
Cash and cash equivalents		280,635	140,015
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>298,088</u>	<u>162,009</u>
<b>Creditors – amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	7,527	5,457
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>290,561</u>	<u>156,552</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>1,347,153</u>	<u>1,175,278</u>
<b>The funds of the parish</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	15	186,287	145,216
Designated funds	15	2,105	2,878
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		<u>188,392</u>	<u>148,094</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	15	1,038,192	910,230
<b>Endowment Funds</b>	15	120,569	116,954
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>1,347,153</u>	<u>1,175,278</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 29 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 18 to 29 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

##### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Parish meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

##### b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Parish generally meets its day to day working capital requirements from its annual income. The Trustees have obtained and reviewed cash flow forecasts for the coming year and based on these are satisfied that the Parish has resources to provide a reasonable expectation that it can continue to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. Therefore, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis

##### c) Income

Plate Collections, Weekly Envelopes, Fabric Fund income, Gift Aid and catering income are accounted for on a cash receipts basis as the amount is collected. Any gift aid not received at the year end is included as a debtor.

Income arising from the rental of Parish Centre facilities to third parties is recognised when the parish has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Legacies are included within Income under either unrestricted or restricted funds according to the terms under which the donation is made and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty. Donations and gifts in kind are brought into the accounts at their fair value to the Parish.

##### d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### e) Tangible assets

The assets of the Parish comprise:-

- Church Hall
- Vicarage
- Other property

The Church Buildings at Church Street, Antrim are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These Heritage assets are not included on the balance sheet as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the parish.

The Church Hall is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2024. No depreciation has been provided on the Church Hall as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The Vicarage is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2024. No depreciation has been provided on the Vicarage as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The other property, namely the house at Inishmoyne, is also recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2024. No depreciation has been provided on the house as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

##### f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprising investment properties, investments in equities and investment in RCB/CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each balance sheet date. Investments in unquoted investments are recorded at cost and are assessed annually for impairment. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the fair value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and fair value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year. Both realised and unrealised gains and losses in investments are reported within "Net Gains / (Losses) on Investments" within the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within creditors amounts falling due within 1 year.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### h) Financial instruments

The Parish only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

##### i) Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the Parish.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income there from is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the Parish.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

#### 2. Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Parish's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

#### 3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Weekly envelopes / FWO	114,179	15,648	0	129,827	132,843
Tax recovered on Donations	22,497	4,467	0	26,964	27,328
Collections/donations	6,192	52,498	0	58,690	10,117
Mission and Charity giving	0	3,836	0	3,836	2,723
Grants	4,010	88,845	0	92,855	3,734
Other income - affiliations	0	4,828	0	4,828	4,363
	<u>146,878</u>	<u>170,122</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>317,000</u>	<u>181,108</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Rental Income	10,545	0	0	10,545	7,550
Use of Church hall	7,168	0	0	7,168	7,390
Other	250	0	0	250	3,200
	<u>17,963</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>17,963</u>	<u>18,140</u>

5. Investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest on investments	2,036	0	50	2,086	1,193
Dividends from investments	1,542	0	2,925	4,467	6,738
	<u>3,578</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,975</u>	<u>6,553</u>	<u>7,931</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Weddings, baptisms and funerals	1,525	0	0	1,525	970
Publications	0	75	0	75	104
Hog Roast	0	1,500	0	1,500	0
Choir dinner	0	75	0	75	0
Youth weekend	0	0	0	0	450
	<u>1,525</u>	<u>1,650</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,175</u>	<u>1,524</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

7. Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Endowment Funds 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Generating funds</b>					
Fundraising costs	516	0	0	516	497
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Wages and salaries	104,151	0	0	104,151	98,020
Diocesan costs/assessment	14,292	0	0	14,292	15,435
Property running costs	21,784	0	0	21,784	14,523
Charitable donations	10,829	3,837	1,325	15,991	15,015
Administration costs	8,104	0	0	8,104	8,191
Property repairs and maintenance	0	14,644	0	14,644	11,977
Congregation running costs	5,913	0	0	5,913	6,525
Event expenses and catering	0	4,566	2,285	6,851	1,728
Publications	45	75	0	120	118
Other expenses - affiliations	0	4,547	0	4,547	4,942
	<u>165,118</u>	<u>27,669</u>	<u>3,610</u>	<u>196,397</u>	<u>176,474</u>
<b>Other costs</b>					
Property improvements and equipment	1,427	12,342	0	13,769	6,712

Governance costs are included within Administration costs above.

8. Taxation

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

**9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and wages	98,770	95,039
National insurance costs	599	32
Employer pension costs	4,782	2,949
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>104,151</u></b>	<b><u>98,020</u></b>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Ministerial support	2	2
Other staff	1	1
Premises maintenance	1	1
	<b><u>4</u></b>	<b><u>4</u></b>

There are no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**Key Management and Trustees**

Key management are deemed to comprise the Trustees. The parish paid expenses of £4,513 (2023: £4,346) relating to the running costs of the Vicarage which is occupied by the Vicar. The following Trustees received remuneration and/or reimbursement of the following amounts during the year:

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
The Ven Dr SR McBride	47,854	46,234
Rev Peter Blake	27,467	24,836
Cecil Barton	123	95
Claire Thompson	27	0
David Tate	72	72
Irene Gates	95	270
John McMaster	220	137
Paul Smyth	89	138

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)**

**10. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cost</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
At beginning of the year	780,000	780,000
Additions	0	0
At end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At beginning of the year	0	0
Depreciation	0	0
Disposals	0	0
At end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net book value at beginning of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
Net book value at end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>

**11. Investment properties**

	<b>£</b>
Balance at beginning of the year	110,000
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
Fair Value Gains / (Losses)	0
Balance at end of the year	<u>110,000</u>

**12. Investments**

	<b>Listed Investments £</b>	<b>Other Investments £</b>	<b>Total £</b>
Balance at beginning of the year	0	128,726	128,726
Profit/(loss) on investments	0	37,866	37,866
Balance at end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>166,592</u>	<u>166,592</u>
<b>Analysis of Investments</b>			
Other unlisted investments	0	166,592	166,592
	<u>0</u>	<u>166,592</u>	<u>166,592</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

13. Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Sundry debtors and prepayments	17,453	21,994
	<u>17,453</u>	<u>21,994</u>

14. Creditors Amounts Due within 1 Year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Accruals and other creditors	7,527	5,457
	<u>7,527</u>	<u>6,447</u>

15. Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0	780,000	0	780,000
Investment Property	0	0	110,000	0	110,000
Investments	53,142	0	0	113,450	166,592
Current Assets	138,805	2,105	150,059	7,119	298,088
Current Liabilities	(5,660)	0	(1,867)	0	(7,527)
<b>Net assets at 31 Dec 2024</b>	<u>186,287</u>	<u>2,105</u>	<u>1,038,192</u>	<u>120,569</u>	<u>1,347,153</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2024 (continued)

16. Funds of the Parish

	At 1 Jan 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Profit/ (loss) on investment assets £	At 31 Dec 2024 £
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
William & Irene Whiteside Trust	14,433	50	0	1	0	14,484
Masserene & Ferrard Trust	102,521	2,925	(3,610)	2,444	1,805	106,085
	<u>116,954</u>	<u>2,975</u>	<u>(3,610)</u>	<u>2,445</u>	<u>1,805</u>	<u>120,569</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
General Fund	909,024	166,944	(35,464)	(3,799)	0	1,036,705
Affiliation Funds	1,206	4,828	(4,547)	0	0	1,487
	<u>910,230</u>	<u>171,772</u>	<u>(40,011)</u>	<u>(3,799)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,038,192</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Fund	145,217	167,666	(164,011)	1,354	36,061	186,287
Designated Fund	2,877	2,278	(3,050)	0	0	2,105
	<u>148,094</u>	<u>169,944</u>	<u>(167,061)</u>	<u>1,353</u>	<u>36,061</u>	<u>188,392</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,175,278</u>	<u>344,691</u>	<u>(210,682)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>37,866</u>	<u>1,347,153</u>

Purposes of Endowment Funds

- Income from the William & Irene Whiteside Trust is to be used to provide Sunday school teaching materials.
- Income from the Masserene & Ferrard Trust is to be used to provide teaching materials and resources for the children of the parish.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

- Fabric Fund: This is a fund to assist with the cost of building repairs, improvements and renovations.
- Affiliation Funds: These are funds for the affiliations' running expenses and income.
- Mission and Charities Fund: This is a fund to be used towards mission and charity
- Church properties: These are properties for the use of the Parish with sale proceeds used strictly for other properties as specified by the RCB.
- Anonymous donation: a donation which is to be used to be used for youth work.
- Donation of £1,000 to be used to purchase a credence table.
- Donations in memory of Sadie Jenkins, Peter Chestnutt and Bert Kennedy: to be used to purchase items in their memory.

**17. Capital Commitments**

At 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024 the Charity had capital commitments of £345,642 in relation to the planned works for the restoration of the church tower, which have not been provided for in the accounts. These commitments will be met by funds currently held in bank accounts, grants received, future donations and fundraising activities and by Gift Aid reclaimable.

The main church building suffered severe smoke damage following a fire on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2024. No provision or recognition of liability has been included in these accounts to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024. At the date of these accounts being approved the costs associated with the reinstatement of the church building are still being quantified. Negotiations are currently ongoing with the charity's insurance provider regarding the funding of all related restoration costs.

**Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101049

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# Accounts

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**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**  
**Annual report and financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Charities Number: NIC101049**

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### References and administrative details

Charity Name: All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Charity Registration Number: NIC101049

Contact Address: All Saints' Parish Centre  
Railway Street  
Antrim  
BT41 4AE

### Trustees

#### Trustees from 01-01-2023 – 31-12-2023

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Rev Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Stephen Kelly, John McMaster, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford, Irene Gates and John Wallace.

#### Trustees approving this report

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Rev Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Stephen Kelly, John McMaster, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford, Irene Gates and John Wallace.

### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr John McMaster
People's Church Warden:	Mr Stephen Kelly

### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
49 Wellington Street  
Ballymena  
BT43 6AD

## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for All Saints' Parish Church Antrim for the year ended 31 December 2023.

All Saints' Parish Church, Antrim, is situated in the heart of Antrim town, and the Parish Centre is one minute's walk away in Railway Street.

Correspondence can be addressed to:

The Vicar, Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride  
The Vicarage  
10 Vicarage Gardens  
ANTRIM, BT41 4JP

Matters of a financial nature can be addressed to:

Mrs. Brian Neill  
c/o All Saints' Parish Centre  
18 Railway Street  
ANTRIM, BT41 4AE

### **Purpose**

The principal function of the Parish is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, social and ecumenical.

All the functions of the Parish relate to the advancement of religion through holding regular worship and communicating with and caring for parishioners of all ages especially the sick and elderly and others in our community.

The Parish has the custody of many historical items and the maintenance of these and the various buildings is undertaken as a secondary charitable purpose. All properties and other valuable items are fully insured and regularly revalued.

### **Governance, Structure and Management**

#### **Governance**

The principal document for the governance of Antrim Parish is Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, which governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. Diocesan Regulations are also issued periodically, and these interpret some aspects of the Constitution where that responsibility has been delegated by the General Synod to Diocesan Councils and Synods.

The other major factor in parish governance is civil law, particularly Health and Safety, Child Protection legislation, Safeguarding Trust regulations, and Employment and Management procedures for lay staff. For example, as children and young adults are important in our Charity, we carry out the necessary checks on all youth leaders and we are fully compliant with the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust.

A Health and Safety team ensures that the users of the Parish Centre comply with the Conditions of Use and are fully compliant with Fire Evacuation procedures and that all Parish Centre users carry out and adhere to Risk Assessments. Regular Fire Evacuations are carried out in both Church and Parish Centre, and procedures are updated when improvements are recommended.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### Structure

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18, and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the parish; this allows them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry.

Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once a year, and at the Annual General Vestry meeting, held at Easter time, the Select Vestry members are elected. The Select Vestry hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually, and there is no limit to the number of terms that they may serve. The members of the Select Vestry make up the Charity Trustees.

#### Trustees:

Chair: The Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride

Jacqueline Adams

Cecil Barton

Sylvia Barton

Rev Peter Blake

Colin Brooks

Cynthia Cherry

Brian Ford

Irene Gates

Willaim Hurst

Stephen Kelly

John McMaster

Brian Neill

Paul Smyth

Wendy Smyth

David Tate

Rev Claire Thompson

Sheila Thompson

John Wallace

#### Management

The Select Vestry meets regularly at times fixed by the members, with the Vicar or the Rev Blake in the Chair. Ad hoc meetings may be called by the Vicar when necessary. Vestry meetings in 2023 were held in person.

The primary responsibility of the Select Vestry is to ensure that the ministry and witness of the Parish is maintained, developed and safeguarded both legally and financially. It has specific responsibility for the administration of the Parish finances and the care of the buildings both internally and externally ("Finance, Fabric and Furnishings"). It is also the legal employer for all lay staff and has responsibility for Health and Safety, insurance and the care of the Parish's assets.

The Select Vestry may delegate responsibility for aspects of its work to persons or to sub-committees, who report back to the Select Vestry. The Finances are managed by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Brian Neill, who reports back to the other Trustees at Vestry meetings monthly or in-between if necessary. The Trustees are updated with the financial situation at each meeting.

The security and safeguarding of all monies are important to the Trustees and all money is counted under dual control.

The Church of Ireland organises 5-yearly inspections of its buildings which are carried out by a qualified architect or conservation specialist with a qualification in historic buildings conservation. Parishes are supplied with a Quinquennial Inspection Report which may contain recommendations for repairs. As a parish we are diligent in our compliance to carry out the recommend repairs. In recent years, following receipt of our Quinquennial Reports from the Diocesan Surveyor, Chris McCollum, we have undertaken improvements such as the erection of external safety railings, internal balustrading in the church gallery and improvements in the vicarage.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

In view of all the various organisations that utilise the Parish Centre (see Public Benefit section), and events such as funeral teas, a catering team has been formed. The team members all hold HABC Level 2 in Food Safety in Catering, a qualification which is updated regularly. The local Council inspects the premises regularly and we currently have a rating of 5.

#### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr John McMaster
People's Church Warden:	Mr Stephen Kelly

#### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson & Wilson, Chartered Accountants  
22/30, Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena. BT43 7AA

#### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
49 Wellington Street  
Ballymena  
BT43 6AD

#### Finances

##### *Income*

Our income from parishioners and visitors showed an encouraging increase on the 2022 figures. The Freewill Offering (including Gift Aid) totalled £137,050 (2022: £124,107), and Fabric Fund (including Gift Aid) came to £23,121 (2022: £19,540). Loose donations on the collection plate at the Sunday and Wednesday services came to a total of £2,647 (2022: £3,302). Taken together, these figures represent an increase of 10.8% over the previous year. A major contributing factor was a donation from one household of £4,000 to the Fabric Fund, a response to the upcoming repairs to the Church tower and roof.

The Parish Centre is used by a number of organisations, including Starburst Theatre School and the Contact Centre. The financial contributions towards the running expenses of the Parish Centre totalled £7,390 (2022: £6,825). This figure is highly encouraging, as we had feared a big decrease due to the loss of the Slimming World groups; however other organisations such as Muckamore WI have started to make use of our facilities.

Our property in Innishmoyne realised a rental of £7,550. During the year considerable sums were outlaid on repairs and maintenance, such as replacing the rear porch windows and sills. These expenses totalled £4,120, and with the usual expenses of management fees, rates and insurance totalling £1,987, our surplus for the year was £1,443 (2022: £3,369).

The parishioners continue to donate 20p coins in "Smartie tubes" and the proceeds contribute to our annual donation to CMSI, which helps fund students training to be church ministers at the Kitwe Theological Seminary. In 2023 the Smartie tubes total was £1,124 (2022: £1,301).

The "Extra Mile" bucket continues to gather in coins, banknotes and even cheques at the back of the church. At the start of 2023 we were still collecting for Women's Aid; in February and early March we collected for the Bishops' Appeal for victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria; and from mid-March onwards we collected

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

for the organisation ShelterBox (this project continued into 2024). As a result of this ongoing work, in 2023 we collected £4,610, but with contributions made in 2022 we were able to hand over £2,200 to Women's Aid, £1,870 to the Bishops' appeal, and an interim payment of £1,600 to ShelterBox.

A total of £1,335 was donated by several individuals and families to general church funds, usually in memory of loved ones. Interest on endowments brought in £6,384. A grant of £500, received from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, was used to help pay for the Evergreens' Christmas Lunch, and we acknowledge our thanks to the Council for this contribution.

Special collections were lifted at four church services, with the proceeds being passed on as appropriate:

March: £230 raised at the midweek Lenten service for the Rural Deanery project.

September: £450 raised at Claire's ordination for the Bishop's Ministry Fund.

October: £500 raised at our Family Service for NI Hospice.

November: £418 raised at the Town Carol Service for the Mayor's Charities.

### **Expenditure**

The bulk of our expenditure is on "normal" expected items, such as salaries and wages; utility bills for electricity, gas, oil, water, telephone; buildings and contents insurance; buildings maintenance.

In 2023, there were a few items which were not run-of-the-mill:

£ 549 for a new computer for the Vicarage.

£2,028 to A McCartney for Organ magnets.

£ 769 to Hayes & Finch for Rev. Claire Thompson's Communion Set.

£3,942 was paid to Chris McCollum for plans, specifications and schedules for our grant application. Planning for the repairs needed to the Church tower and roof continued during 2023. Seminars organised by NCT and Heritage Lottery were attended, and while encouraging progress was made with NCT, changes to the Heritage Lottery application system meant that we were advised to delay our application until 2024.

### **Annual donations**

The healthy nature of our finances allowed us to continue our tradition of making Christmas donations to a variety of Church organisations and missions, such as the Chaplaincy at Queen's University Belfast, the Chaplaincy at the Missions to Seamen and the Church of Ireland Youth Department. Eleven donations ranging from £250 to £400, and totalling £3,000, were made.

The second annual payment of £1,800, to pay for tuition fees for two students studying at the Theological College in Zambia, was paid via CMS Ireland in April. We are committed to one more annual payment.

The third of three annual payments of £3,000 each to Muckamore Parish Development Association (as described in the 2021 report) was made in December, and we welcomed a speaker from MPDA at the November Select Vestry meeting.

### **In summary**

The financial situation at the end of 2023 is:

Current account	in credit by £41,504.88
Deposit account	in credit by £97,304.48

The Deposit account is designated to cover urgent maintenance and repairs to Church properties as advised by the Diocesan surveyor.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

All other Assets and Liabilities are stated in the Annual Report and all properties are vested in the RCB and owned by the Parish.

All legitimate invoices and requests for payment in 2023 were paid in full when received.

Although our income is below the required level, we have continued to use the accruals accounting system.

#### Public Benefit

The charity Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that our activities help to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a suitable benefit to the beneficiaries. Our activities, and their benefits, are detailed here.

The charity's main function is the advancement of religion, the provision of spiritual care for the elderly or infirm, and the development of younger people in the community. Regular worship and reaching out into the community as well as other activities both social and fundraising have been carried out through the year to fulfil our statement of Public Benefit.

#### The Church

**Church Services** - a full programme of services has been led by the parish clergy team including a monthly Family Service in the Parish Centre on the third Sunday of each month, offering a more informal form of worship aimed at younger families in the parish. This service is preceded by refreshments, giving parishioners an opportunity to chat in a relaxed atmosphere. The parish also took part in the annual 'Big Coffee Break' at the Family Service in October. This was well supported by parishioners, raising £500 for the NI Hospice.

The parish continues to see an increase in the size of its congregation, with several new families from different ethnic backgrounds joining us. A common comment is that an exploratory visit to church had met with such a warm and friendly welcome that the newcomers decided to make All Saints' their place of worship.

On Sunday 2nd April, All Saints' Parish moved to using the Common Cup at Holy Communion services, as directed by the House of Bishops. This was a welcome return to the sharing of the Cup of the Lord and widely accepted by parishioners.

**Parish Choir** – the mixed voice parish choir leads the singing at all services, providing special music on feast days and special occasions. Its members range in age from 11 to over 80 years and the choir practices each Sunday morning from 10am to 11am. The choir continues to be an integral part of worship at all the church services, expertly led by choirmaster and organist Mr Alex McBride who celebrated 10 years of service in June 2023.

**Wednesday morning services** – a service of Holy Communion continued in 2023, preceded by time for a coffee and chat. There is a regular and faithful group of parishioners who benefit greatly, both spiritually and socially, from the shared experience of the Wednesday morning service.

**Late evening office and prayer meeting** – every third Sunday evening parishioners are able to participate in this traditional Late Evening Office service including a time of prayer and reflection.

**Unite** – these monthly services provide a relaxed atmosphere and contemporary music, hopefully appealing to the young and young-at-heart. The praise band consists of musicians and singers (of all ages) from our own congregation led by two members of neighbouring St Jude's parish. This service continues as a permanent feature of the parish.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### The Church Calendar

**Friday 3rd March** – the World Day of Prayer was hosted by All Saints' Parish in 2023. World Day of Prayer is an annual event that brings together people to observe a common day of prayer and learn from women in different countries. This year's WDP focused on Taiwan with the theme, "I have heard about your faith," based on a passage from the Book of Ephesians in the Bible.

**Lenten and Easter Services** – mid-week Lenten services were hosted by the churches around the Rural Deanery and well attended by All Saints' parishioners.

During Holy Week, members of the local town churches joined together for cross-denominational evening services. These were held in High Street Presbyterian, Antrim Methodist and the Christian Fellowship churches, with a special Tenebrae service held in All Saints on Good Friday.

Also, the Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' was able to take place under normal conditions and this very popular event, in its 17th year, was attended by members from across the entire community, helping strengthen a sense of shared community, benefitting the local and surrounding area.

On Easter Day, a special early morning service of Holy Communion was held by the shore of Lough Neagh, followed by breakfast in the Parish Centre. A Family Holy Communion service was celebrated in church at 11.30 am. Both these services were memorable occasions and well attended by the parishioners.

**Sunday 7th May** – the morning service took the form of a special service of thanksgiving as parishioners joined millions of people around the globe to mark the historic coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Over 130 parishioners attended a Coronation buffet lunch in the Parish Centre after the service.

**Sunday 10th September** – the Rev Claire Thompson was ordained Priest by the Bishop of Connor, the Rt Rev George Davison. Rev Peter Blake was the preacher and other clergy present included The Rev Canon Kevin Graham - Director of Ordinands, The Rev Aaron McAlister and The Vicar. This special service was followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre for parishioners, friends and family of Rev Claire.

**Harvest Service** – each year after the special celebrations of Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday, gifts of fruit, vegetables and flowers are distributed to housebound parishioners.

**Saturday 11th November** – a very successful Diocesan Mothers' Union Council meeting was held in the parish church, incorporating the Act of Remembrance and followed by a 'time of quiet reflection' conducted by All Ireland Mothers' Union Chaplain, Archdeacon S R McBride. The meeting was attended by members from across the diocese.

**Sunday 12th November** – the Royal British Legion, Antrim Branch held the Remembrance Service in the parish church attended by local dignitaries and councillors, led by Councillor Mark Cooper BEM, Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Council.

**Sunday 19th November** – the Rite of Confirmation takes place for our young adults when they are approximately 13-14 years old. A series of classes take place on the Sunday evenings preceding the service of Confirmation and these classes centre on the core aspects of the Christian faith as received by the Church of Ireland. Every effort is made to encourage our young adults to continue their faith development through their participation in our Next Steps programme. The Bishop of Connor, the Rt Rev George Davison confirmed ten young people at this special service, attended by family, friends and parishioners.

**Thursday 23rd November** – as part of the ongoing commitment by the parish to support events in the local community, the Antrim Town Carol service was held in the church for the first time. The service followed the 'switching on' of the Christmas tree lights and music was provided by the Ballyduff Silver Band. Local dignitaries, councillors and members of the Antrim community attended this festive service. The retiring collection from this service was donated to the Mayor's nominated charities for his term in office.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

**Monday 4th December** – All Saints' Parish parishioners, Victoria McClements and Connor Taggart, best known as 'Bello Duo', gave a number of free candlelight concerts in churches across Northern Ireland during the autumn months. One of these concerts was held in All Saints in December and enjoyed by parishioners and friends.

**Christmas services** – during Advent, there is a full programme of services including a Family Service of Carols for Christmas, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight, as well as the very popular Christmas Eve service and First Holy Communion of Christmas. Every year, the Funday club children can take part in the Christmas Nativity play which is performed during the Christmas morning service.

**Bible Study** - parishioners met together in February/March 2023, for a bible study based on 'The Chosen' series, a powerful retelling of the story of Jesus and his followers, providing a platform for considerable thought and discussion for those attending. The bible studies were open to all parishioners and aimed to provide a social element as well as the opportunity to explore how religion can have a beneficial impact on our daily lives.

**WhatsApp** - the parish also has an 'active WhatsApp group' with the clergy team, where parishioners regularly comment on the United Christian Broadcaster's Word for Today daily devotional material or share their insights on the daily bible readings set out on the weekly News Sheet.

**Flower Guild** – the church Flower Guild is a small group of volunteers who, on a rota basis, arrange fresh flowers for the church each week. This service provides an opportunity for parishioners and non-parishioners who wish to donate towards church flowers in memory of family members, or to celebrate a special anniversary and is much appreciated by the clergy and those at our services.

**Electronic Tablets** – this facility, for parishioners without internet access who cannot attend church in person, has continued throughout the year. A team of volunteers download the Sunday service on to the tablets, distribute them at the start of the week, and collect them again later in the week. This continues to be hugely appreciated and, as well as allowing parishioners to "attend church", many new friendships were formed on the doorsteps as tablets were delivered and collected.

**Home visits** – pastoral visiting is the backbone of parish life. It enables the clergy to get to know new families in a more relaxed setting of their own homes. It is also a way to keep up regular contacts with those who are house bound. Times of illness or bereavement are occasions when pastoral visits are most effective. Our clergy team prioritise such visits and it is encouraging to know that many members of the parish provide less structured but equally effective visits to their fellow parishioners who are experiencing difficult times.

**Extra Mile projects** – during 2023 the parish supported the purchase of fuel vouchers for Women's Aid in the local community, the annual Bishop's Appeal and also Shelterbox, an organisation providing emergency shelter after a disaster for families in need as they rebuild their lives. Cumulatively this amounted to £5,900.

**Smartie Tube Appeal** – Smartie tubes were distributed at the services over the Christmas period inviting parishioners to fill them with 20p pieces or £1 coins as we continue to support the students who are studying to be future clergymen in the Church of Zambia. The fees for one student are £600 per year and we are committed to sponsoring two students for the next two years.

**Saints Alive** – a quarterly magazine is produced and distributed to parishioners, informing them of all activities in the Parish. During the year, a weekly **News Sheet** continued to be produced for circulation at Morning Service to keep parishioners up to date with current and future events happening in the parish and includes weekly bible readings. A copy of the News Sheet is also available on the parish website each week.

In association with the Oasis Group, the parish has been joining with churches in Antrim to support the **Food Bank project** which has provided much needed practical care for families in the Antrim area who are enduring difficult times.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

**Christian Aid** – over the years, the parish put a good deal of effort into the door to door collection that took place during Christian Aid week. However, due to demographic changes in the town and the two years of Covid, this activity has ceased. Collection envelopes are placed in the pews and parishioners are encouraged to support this worthy cause. The success of the Extra Mile Bucket projects has had an effect on the total collected for Christian Aid.

**European Heritage Open Days (EHOD)** – a celebration of architecture, history and a chance for everyone to explore the wonderful shared cultural heritage right on our doorstep. As part of the 2023 event, All Saints' Parish church opened its doors to the public on Saturday 9th September from 10 am to 4 pm. Volunteer parishioners were on hand to act as visitor guides.

### The Parish Centre

All Saints' Parish Centre is located in the centre of Antrim town, providing a venue used by both parish groups and external organisations from the local and surrounding community.

**Next Steps** - this group consists of young adults from 11 years up to 18 years, meeting on a Sunday evening, from September to June, for fun, food and fellowship. Thanks to the generosity of Education Authority Funding and the Massereene and Ferrard Bequest, which is specifically for youth work, it has been possible to fund trips such as visits to the Glengormley Bowling Lanes, several trips to McDonald's, Go-Karting and Antrim Omniplex. 'Connor Takes the Castle' continues to be a favourite event in the Next Steps' calendar and All Saints' provides one of the largest parish groups attending the event. Next Steps is a group aimed at helping young people to build new friendships and explore faith in an appropriate and encouraging way.

Parish Youth groups are open and welcoming to all young people in the area, catering for all ages, and are well attended; indeed, at times a waiting list for new members has to be in place. The groups are made up of young people of diverse backgrounds, and all are made welcome.

**Scouts** - 5th Antrim Scouts meet every Tuesday evening from September to June. The Scouts cater for young adults between the ages of 10½ to 14½ years and the Explorer Scouts cater for those aged between 14½ and 18 years.

Scouts and Explorer Scouts take part in a programme which enables members to find out about the world in which they live, encourages them to know their own abilities and the importance of keeping fit. The structured badge work helps develop their creative talents and it also provides opportunities to explore their own values and personal attitudes. Scouting is about being with friends, as part of a team, and participating fully in the adventure and opportunities of life. Scouting encourages members to look beyond themselves and we have been involved in activities to raise funds for local charities such as Lough Neagh Rescue.

When weather permits, activities have a focus on the outdoors in preparation for camp which is held under canvas. Scouts learn how to pitch tents, camp safely, prepare a menu for their fellow scouts, incorporating items such as food hygiene, safe storage of foods, vermin control, country code, fire safety and first aid.

**Beavers/Cubs** - there were seven Beavers (girls and boys aged 5yrs 10 months to 7yrs 11 months) during 2023, led by two female leaders and two Explorer Scouts who were given the opportunity to increase their leadership skills in Young Leader roles. A total of 90 badges were awarded covering teamwork, cook, creative, disability awareness, gardener, health and fitness, hobbies, international, explore, safety, sports, and hikes. Many games were played, and fun was had, allowing the young people to reconnect with those of the same age and develop social skills.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

There were eight Cubs (a mixture of girls and boys from various faiths, aged 8 – 11 years) in 2023. The leadership team consisted of two adult female leaders and one adult male leader. There was also an Explorer Scout who is currently undertaking his 'young leader' badge and one former scout volunteering as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Members of this section continued to engage in a full and busy programme of badgework, earning 142 badges in the following areas: outdoors, team leader, world, artist, book reader, collector, communicator, environmental conservation, fire safety, international, local knowledge, my faith, emergency aid and time on water. 7 Silver awards were attained throughout the year– this is the highest award able to be achieved at this age of Scouting.

The Cubs still do regular litter-picks of the Castle Gardens, Lough Shore and the area around the Parish Centre. Various Cubs also participated in District events such as orienteering, district hike, district football, district flag challenge night, 2 nights indoor camp with another local group, 2-night camp under canvas with 7 other scout groups from Co. Antrim. The outcome of all these activities was that the Cubs learned valuable skills for life, gaining confidence by being encouraged to challenge themselves in a safe environment.

**Brownies** – there were 9 girls (aged 4 to 7 years) during 2023, meeting every Monday evening, mid-September through to the end of April. The Brownie programme includes badge work for interest badges such as construction, book lover, animal lover, family tree etc. The Brownies also acknowledge the Christian holidays of Easter and Christmas and in 2023 had the privilege of performing a short play for the Church Family Service before Christmas. They renew their Promise every year at an evening that parents, friends and family can attend - 'I promise to think about my beliefs and to be kind and helpful'.

**Rainbows** - meet on Monday evenings in the Parish Centre, catering for girls aged between 4 and 7 years. There are currently ten members who enjoy different crafts and games each week, led by two leaders. These crafts and games help the girls to develop useful life skills in a fun way. The girls also do badge work, following guidance from Girlguiding UK. The Rainbows performed a small play at the Church Carol service in December and the girls also take their Rainbow Promise yearly.

**The Funday Club** - is for children of Primary School age, and takes place on Sundays in the Parish Centre, at 12.00 pm until approximately 12.45 pm, except for the third Sunday of the month due to the Family service which the children are encouraged to attend with their families. We regularly have between 10-20 children aged 4 to 13 years who come along to learn about God and have some fun, including a range of activities such as:

- Song and dance to children's worship songs.
- Fun games such as individual and team games which link to our bible story.
- Listen to bible stories and watch short videos of the stories
- Create some crafts which relate to the bible story.
- Group discussions
- Take part in quizzes which are related to the bible stories.
- Learn about other countries and world issues such as famine

Every year, the Funday club children can take part in the Christmas Nativity play which is performed during the Christmas morning service.

Each year the children are invited to attend the Holiday Bible club for a week in the month of August where they enjoy fun, games, craft, songs and learn about Jesus. Each year follows a different theme. In 2023 the theme was John Hardwick's 'Cops and Robbers' and several Funday club children attended. This club is also open to all young children of primary school age from the local community.

The Funday Club is of great benefit to children as they enjoy fellowship together, learn how God can have an impact on their life and feel free to discuss issues and ask questions. They also are learning skills of turn taking, talking and listening and working with others. Parents of the children have the opportunity to focus on the church service knowing that their children are being looked after and also learning about the Christian life. It is

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

also beneficial for the leaders as they enjoy the interaction with the children and feel that they are having a positive impact on the life of the church.

The organisations mentioned above are open not only to young people of our parish, but to children of all denominations (or none), with each organisation meeting from September to June on their allocated evening. We hope that by enjoying events in the Parish Centre, the young people can be attracted to our church worship as well.

**The Evergreens** - a group for the 'young at heart' in the parish and from the local community, meet on the second Tuesday of each month, with a guest speaker covering a wide range of topics, followed by lunch. Up to 50 members regularly enjoyed topics such as the History of Belfast, the 'life of a milkman', as well as several music inspired meetings. In June the Evergreens closed their programme with a special lunch at a local hotel and a Christmas party was held at a local restaurant. All events are held in a Christian atmosphere, helping foster meaningful friendships and a sense of shared community.

**Tots 'n' Us** – meet each week during school term time, supported by volunteers in our Parish offering a welcome and safe place for parents/carers and their youngsters. The volunteers are a very welcoming group who reach out to our local community, and as a result we have parents and carers from different faiths and cultures. All are treated equally, and respect is shown to all beliefs and lifestyle choices. On an average Friday there can be up to 20 adults and up to 30 children. A different craft activity is offered each week, there are ample toys to amuse and educate the children and a sing and rhyme session is included regularly. The children develop self-confidence and social skills which will help them transition to Nursery school, and at the same time the adults have time to relax, get to know other people from the community, build friendships or just enjoy a chat.

**Mothers' Union** - the branch meetings of All Saints' Mother Union are held every second Thursday of the month – excluding the summer months - and are attended by members and non-members. Members range in age from 40 years to approximately 98 years. Members who are no longer able to attend meetings owing to age or illness are visited during the year and kept up to date by the leader and other members. An annual Enrolment Service was held in January 2023, when members renewed their commitment to the Mothers' Union objectives. No new members were enrolled to the branch in 2023. The speakers at the branch meetings during 2023 covered a wide range of interesting topics including a nurse's experience of her work helping families at home and abroad, flower arranging, history of our church, health and wellbeing, 16 days of activism against gender based violence, Oberammergau Passion Play and a party to celebrate King Charles 111 Coronation.

On Sunday 11th June 2023, members and parishioners attended a service of commissioning of the Vicar, Archdeacon S R McBride, as the new All Ireland Mothers' Union Chaplain. The Archdeacon continues as the Mothers' Union Chaplain for Connor Diocese.

Members also attended the annual Festival Service in St Anne's Cathedral, the Area service in Broughshane parish and Diocesan Council meetings.

All Saints' Mothers' Union members enjoy attending the branch meetings, along with the cup of tea and time to chat with friends. They are always ready to volunteer their assistance, preparing and donating a number of toiletry wash bags to Antrim Area hospital, as well as helping at the many events in the parish.

**Bowling Club** - meets on a Wednesday night in the Parish Centre. The club is open to anyone who would enjoy a good night's fun and fellowship, whether they have played bowls before or not. Since the pandemic the club has concentrated on fun bowls each week and would welcome new members.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### Heritage

All Saints' Parish Church in Antrim was built in 1596 and has been described by Dr Paul Larmour, one of Ireland's leading architectural historians, as the finest example of an Elizabethan Gothic church in Ireland.

The church building continues to be the central focus for any major acts of civic worship, the most recent being a service of commemoration following the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September 2023, at which the mayor and representatives of the Council attended.

Although the physical building is over 425 years old and has been the focal point in the lives of so many people, we are grateful that it continues to be a place where the living stones, the disciples of Jesus, still come to worship and receive their spiritual guidance and direction. We take seriously our duty with regards the safe keeping of parish records and items of historical interest, and these can be viewed on request by interested parties.

**In conclusion**, All Saints' is a thriving and vibrant church, with an industrious clergy team and church services well attended. The parish is in a sound financial position, and this report aims to cover examples of the activities of life and worship that goes on in the church enabled by a wide range of volunteers.

Our links with local churches help to ensure the Christian religion continues to thrive throughout the Antrim area. Antrim was once statistically Northern Ireland's, most sectarian town. Thankfully, through the lead of several local churches including All Saints, initiatives such as the Borough's Community Safety Partnership and the Civic Forum (which dealt with flags and emblems issues), the town is a more settled area and incidents of a sectarian nature have diminished.

The clergy from All Saints, St Jude's Muckamore, Antrim Methodist, High Street Presbyterian, St Joseph's and St Comgall's parishes and Antrim Christian Fellowship Church meet quarterly for prayer breakfasts in the 'Top of the Town'. The social gathering helps cement the cordial relationships between the clergy, evaluate the previous events and make plans for coming activities. In a town where each of these denominations are relatively strong and with full parish activities, it is encouraging that every effort is made to look beyond our own denominational boundaries. Our joint Holy Week services, Walk of Witness and Lough Shore Dawn Communion on Easter Sunday are a very significant sign of the good relations that exist not only between the clergy but the parishioners of the above denominations. In December, a packed congregation from all the town's churches joined together in High Street Presbyterian Church to celebrate 50 years in their relocated church premises.

We appreciate the tremendous efforts of our clergy and acknowledge how they strive to keep pushing forward and developing ways to attract more people of all ages into following the way of Christ.

#### **Statement as to disclosure to our examiners**

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

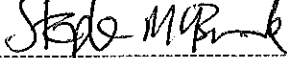
**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)**

**Independent Examiners**

The examiner, Ian Johnston (A.F.A.), for and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants, has indicated his willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning the reappointment was agreed by the Vestry on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

On Behalf of the Trustees



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Independent Examiners Report to the charity trustees of All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 17 to 27.

#### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

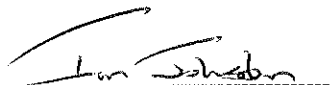
My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>						
Donations & legacies	3	149,377	31,731	0	181,108	166,034
Other trading activities	4	18,140	0	0	18,140	14,240
Investments	5	2,621	0	5,310	7,931	4,180
Charitable activities	6	970	554	0	1,524	1,524
Other income		0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>171,108</b>	<b>32,285</b>	<b>5,310</b>	<b>208,703</b>	<b>185,978</b>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>						
Generating funds	7	497	0	0	497	463
Charitable activities	7	154,514	21,182	778	176,474	171,629
Other costs	7	549	6,163	0	6,712	3,303
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>155,560</b>	<b>27,345</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>183,683</b>	<b>175,395</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before transfers</b>		<b>15,548</b>	<b>4,940</b>	<b>4,532</b>	<b>25,020</b>	<b>10,583</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>(2,768)</b>	<b>1,991</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>12,780</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>5,309</b>	<b>25,020</b>	<b>10,583</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment assets		895	0	1,219	2,114	(14,507)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>13,675</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>6,528</b>	<b>27,134</b>	<b>(3,924)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>134,419</b>	<b>903,299</b>	<b>110,426</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>148,094</b>	<b>910,230</b>	<b>116,954</b>	<b>1,175,278</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>
<b>Broken down as:</b>						
General account fund		148,094	909,024	116,954	1,174,072	1,146,359
Affiliation accounts funds		0	1,206	0	1,206	1,785
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>148,094</b>	<b>910,230</b>	<b>116,954</b>	<b>1,175,278</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>

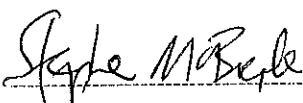
All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Position / (Balance Sheet) as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	780,000	780,000
Investment Properties	11	110,000	110,000
Investments	12	128,726	126,612
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>1,018,726</u>	<u>1,016,612</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	13	21,994	12,201
Cash and cash equivalents		140,015	125,778
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>162,009</u>	<u>137,979</u>
<b>Creditors – amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	5,457	6,447
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>156,552</u>	<u>131,532</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>1,175,278</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>
<b>The funds of the parish</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	15	145,216	130,482
Designated funds	15	2,878	3,937
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		<u>148,094</u>	<u>134,419</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	15	910,230	903,299 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>	15	116,954	110,426
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>1,175,278</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 25 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 25 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

#### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

##### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Parish meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

##### b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Parish generally meets its day to day working capital requirements from its annual income. The Trustees have obtained and reviewed cash flow forecasts for the coming year and based on these are satisfied that the Parish has resources to provide a reasonable expectation that it can continue to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. Therefore, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis

##### c) Income

Plate Collections, Weekly Envelopes, Fabric Fund income, Gift Aid and catering income are accounted for on a cash receipts basis as the amount is collected. Any gift aid not received at the year end is included as a debtor.

Income arising from the rental of Parish Centre facilities to third parties is recognised when the parish has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Legacies are included within Income under either unrestricted or restricted funds according to the terms under which the donation is made and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty. Donations and gifts in kind are brought into the accounts at their fair value to the Parish.

##### d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### e) Tangible assets

The assets of the Parish comprise:-

- Church Hall
- Vicarage
- Other property

The Church Buildings at Church Street, Antrim are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These Heritage assets are not included on the balance sheet as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the parish.

The Church Hall is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2023. No depreciation has been provided on the Church Hall as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The Vicarage is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2023. No depreciation has been provided on the Vicarage as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The other property, namely the house at Inishmoyne, is also recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2023. No depreciation has been provided on the house as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

##### f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprising investment properties, investments in equities and investment in RCB/CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each balance sheet date. Investments in unquoted investments are recorded at cost and are assessed annually for impairment. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the fair value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and fair value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year. Both realised and unrealised gains and losses in investments are reported within "Net Gains / (Losses) on Investments" within the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within creditors amounts falling due within 1 year.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### h) Financial instruments

The Parish only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

##### i) Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the Parish.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income there from is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the Parish.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

#### 2. Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Parish's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

#### 3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Weekly envelopes / FWO	113,782	19,061	0	132,843	119,693
Tax recovered on Donations	23,268	4,060	0	27,328	23,954
Collections/donations	8,593	1,524	0	10,117	13,043
Mission and Charity giving	0	2,723	0	2,723	1,967
Grants	3,734	0	0	3,734	6,188
Other income - affiliations	0	4,363	0	4,363	1,189
	<u>149,377</u>	<u>31,731</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>181,108</u>	<u>166,034</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Rental Income	7,550	0	0	7,550	7,015
Use of Church hall	7,390	0	0	7,390	6,825
Other	3,200	0	0	3,200	400
	<u>18,140</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18,140</u>	<u>14,240</u>

5. Investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest on investments	1,162	0	31	1,193	274
Dividends from investments	1,459	0	5,279	6,738	3,906
	<u>2,621</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,310</u>	<u>7,931</u>	<u>4,180</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Weddings, baptisms and funerals	970	0	0	970	1,220
Youth weekend	0	450	0	450	0
Publications	0	104	0	104	304
	<u>970</u>	<u>554</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,524</u>	<u>1,524</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

7. Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Generating funds</b>					
Fundraising costs	497	0	0	497	463
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Wages and salaries	98,020	0	0	98,020	90,216
Diocesan costs/assessment	15,435	0	0	15,435	19,870
Property running costs	14,523	0	0	14,523	18,404
Charitable donations	11,820	3,195	0	15,015	10,951
Administration costs	8,191	0	0	8,191	8,057
Property repairs and maintenance	0	11,977	0	11,977	11,585
Congregation running costs	6,525	0	0	6,525	8,043
Event expenses and catering	0	950	778	1,728	2,486
Publications	0	118	0	118	316
Other expenses - affiliations	0	4,942	0	4,942	1,701
	<u>154,514</u>	<u>21,182</u>	<u>778</u>	<u>176,474</u>	<u>171,629</u>
<b>Other costs</b>					
Property improvements and equipment	549	6,163	0	6,712	3,303

Governance costs are included within Administration costs above.

8. Taxation

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### 9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and wages	95,039	87,187
National insurance costs	32	167
Employer pension costs	2,949	2,862
Total	<u>98,020</u>	<u>90,216</u>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Ministerial support	2	2
Other staff	1	1
Premises maintenance	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

There are no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

#### Key Management and Trustees

Key management are deemed to comprise the Trustees. The parish paid expenses of £4,346 (2022: £5,802) relating to the running costs of the Vicarage which is occupied by the Vicar. The following Trustees received remuneration and/or reimbursement of the following amounts during the year:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
The Ven Dr SR McBride	46,234	43,177
Rev Peter Blake	24,836	22,087
Cecil Barton	95	201
Claire Thompson	0	380
David Tate	72	90
Cynthia Cherry	0	817
Irene Gates	270	179
John McMaster	137	0
Paul Smyth	138	0

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Total
	£	£
<b>Cost</b>		
At beginning of the year	780,000	780,000
Additions	0	0
At end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At beginning of the year	0	0
Depreciation	0	0
Disposals	0	0
At end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net book value at beginning of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
Net book value at end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>

11. Investment properties

	£
Balance at beginning of the year	110,000
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
Fair Value Gains / (Losses)	0
Balance at end of the year	<u>110,000</u>

12. Investments

	Listed Investments £	Other Investments £	Total £
Balance at beginning of the year	0	126,612	126,612
Profit/(loss) on investments	0	2,114	2,114
Balance at end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>128,726</u>	<u>128,726</u>
<b>Analysis of Investments</b>			
Other unlisted investments	0	128,726	128,726
	<u>0</u>	<u>128,726</u>	<u>128,726</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

13. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sundry debtors and prepayments	21,994	12,201
	<u>21,994</u>	<u>12,202</u>

14. Creditors Amounts Due within 1 Year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and other creditors	5,457	6,447
	<u>5,457</u>	<u>6,447</u>

15. Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0	780,000	0	780,000
Investment Property	0	0	110,000	0	110,000
Investments	17,081	0	0	111,645	128,726
Current Assets	133,592	2,878	20,230	5,309	162,009
Current Liabilities	(5,457)	0	0	0	(5,457)
<b>Net assets at 31 Dec 2023</b>	<u>145,216</u>	<u>2,878</u>	<u>910,230</u>	<u>116,954</u>	<u>1,175,278</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

16. Funds of the Parish

	At 1 Jan 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Profit/ (loss) on investment assets £	At 31 Dec 2023 £
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
William & Irene Whiteside Trust	16,018	31	0	(1)	(1,615)	14,433
Masserene & Ferrard Trust	94,408	5,279	(778)	778	2,834	102,521
	<u>110,426</u>	<u>5,310</u>	<u>(778)</u>	<u>777</u>	<u>1,219</u>	<u>116,954</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
General Fund	901,514	27,922	(22,403)	1,991	0	909,024
Affiliation Funds	1,785	4,363	(4,942)	0	0	1,206
	<u>903,299</u>	<u>32,285</u>	<u>(27,345)</u>	<u>1,991</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>910,230</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Fund	130,482	166,498	(149,890)	(2,768)	895	145,217
Designated Fund	3,937	4,610	(5,670)	0	0	2,877
	<u>134,419</u>	<u>171,108</u>	<u>(155,560)</u>	<u>(2,768)</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>148,094</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,148,144</u>	<u>208,703</u>	<u>(183,683)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,114</u>	<u>1,175,278</u>

Purposes of Endowment Funds

- Income from the William & Irene Whiteside Trust is to be used to provide Sunday school teaching materials.
- Income from the Masserene & Ferrard Trust is to be used to provide teaching materials and resources for the children of the parish.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

- Fabric Fund: This is a fund to assist with the cost of building repairs, improvements and renovations.
- Affiliation Funds: These are funds for the affiliations' running expenses and income.
- Mission and Charities Fund: This is a fund to be used towards mission and charity
- Church properties: These are properties for the use of the Parish with sale proceeds used strictly for other properties as specified by the RCB.
- Anonymous donation: a donation which is to be used to be used for youth work.
- Donation of £1,000 to be used to purchase a credence table.
- Donations in memory of Sadie Jenkins, Peter Chestnutt and Bert Kennedy: to be used to purchase items in their memory.

**Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101049

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# Annual report

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**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**  
**Annual report and financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

**Charities Number: NIC101049**

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023**

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## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### References and administrative details

Charity Name: All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Charity Registration Number: NIC101049

Contact Address: All Saints' Parish Centre  
Railway Street  
Antrim  
BT41 4AE

### Trustees

#### Trustees from 01-01-2023 – 31-12-2023

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Rev Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Stephen Kelly, John McMaster, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford, Irene Gates and John Wallace.

#### Trustees approving this report

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Rev Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Stephen Kelly, John McMaster, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford, Irene Gates and John Wallace.

### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr John McMaster
People's Church Warden:	Mr Stephen Kelly

### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
49 Wellington Street  
Ballymena  
BT43 6AD

## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for All Saints' Parish Church Antrim for the year ended 31 December 2023.

All Saints' Parish Church, Antrim, is situated in the heart of Antrim town, and the Parish Centre is one minute's walk away in Railway Street.

Correspondence can be addressed to:

The Vicar, Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride  
The Vicarage  
10 Vicarage Gardens  
ANTRIM, BT41 4JP

Matters of a financial nature can be addressed to:

Mrs. Brian Neill  
c/o All Saints' Parish Centre  
18 Railway Street  
ANTRIM, BT41 4AE

### **Purpose**

The principal function of the Parish is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, social and ecumenical.

All the functions of the Parish relate to the advancement of religion through holding regular worship and communicating with and caring for parishioners of all ages especially the sick and elderly and others in our community.

The Parish has the custody of many historical items and the maintenance of these and the various buildings is undertaken as a secondary charitable purpose. All properties and other valuable items are fully insured and regularly revalued.

### **Governance, Structure and Management**

#### **Governance**

The principal document for the governance of Antrim Parish is Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, which governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. Diocesan Regulations are also issued periodically, and these interpret some aspects of the Constitution where that responsibility has been delegated by the General Synod to Diocesan Councils and Synods.

The other major factor in parish governance is civil law, particularly Health and Safety, Child Protection legislation, Safeguarding Trust regulations, and Employment and Management procedures for lay staff. For example, as children and young adults are important in our Charity, we carry out the necessary checks on all youth leaders and we are fully compliant with the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust.

A Health and Safety team ensures that the users of the Parish Centre comply with the Conditions of Use and are fully compliant with Fire Evacuation procedures and that all Parish Centre users carry out and adhere to Risk Assessments. Regular Fire Evacuations are carried out in both Church and Parish Centre, and procedures are updated when improvements are recommended.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### Structure

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18, and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the parish; this allows them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry.

Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once a year, and at the Annual General Vestry meeting, held at Easter time, the Select Vestry members are elected. The Select Vestry hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually, and there is no limit to the number of terms that they may serve. The members of the Select Vestry make up the Charity Trustees.

#### Trustees:

Chair: The Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride

Jacqueline Adams

Cecil Barton

Sylvia Barton

Rev Peter Blake

Colin Brooks

Cynthia Cherry

Brian Ford

Irene Gates

Willaim Hurst

Stephen Kelly

John McMaster

Brian Neill

Paul Smyth

Wendy Smyth

David Tate

Rev Claire Thompson

Sheila Thompson

John Wallace

#### Management

The Select Vestry meets regularly at times fixed by the members, with the Vicar or the Rev Blake in the Chair. Ad hoc meetings may be called by the Vicar when necessary. Vestry meetings in 2023 were held in person.

The primary responsibility of the Select Vestry is to ensure that the ministry and witness of the Parish is maintained, developed and safeguarded both legally and financially. It has specific responsibility for the administration of the Parish finances and the care of the buildings both internally and externally ("Finance, Fabric and Furnishings"). It is also the legal employer for all lay staff and has responsibility for Health and Safety, insurance and the care of the Parish's assets.

The Select Vestry may delegate responsibility for aspects of its work to persons or to sub-committees, who report back to the Select Vestry. The Finances are managed by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Brian Neill, who reports back to the other Trustees at Vestry meetings monthly or in-between if necessary. The Trustees are updated with the financial situation at each meeting.

The security and safeguarding of all monies are important to the Trustees and all money is counted under dual control.

The Church of Ireland organises 5-yearly inspections of its buildings which are carried out by a qualified architect or conservation specialist with a qualification in historic buildings conservation. Parishes are supplied with a Quinquennial Inspection Report which may contain recommendations for repairs. As a parish we are diligent in our compliance to carry out the recommend repairs. In recent years, following receipt of our Quinquennial Reports from the Diocesan Surveyor, Chris McCollum, we have undertaken improvements such as the erection of external safety railings, internal balustrading in the church gallery and improvements in the vicarage.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

In view of all the various organisations that utilise the Parish Centre (see Public Benefit section), and events such as funeral teas, a catering team has been formed. The team members all hold HABC Level 2 in Food Safety in Catering, a qualification which is updated regularly. The local Council inspects the premises regularly and we currently have a rating of 5.

#### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr John McMaster
People's Church Warden:	Mr Stephen Kelly

#### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson & Wilson, Chartered Accountants  
22/30, Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena. BT43 7AA

#### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
49 Wellington Street  
Ballymena  
BT43 6AD

#### Finances

##### *Income*

Our income from parishioners and visitors showed an encouraging increase on the 2022 figures. The Freewill Offering (including Gift Aid) totalled £137,050 (2022: £124,107), and Fabric Fund (including Gift Aid) came to £23,121 (2022: £19,540). Loose donations on the collection plate at the Sunday and Wednesday services came to a total of £2,647 (2022: £3,302). Taken together, these figures represent an increase of 10.8% over the previous year. A major contributing factor was a donation from one household of £4,000 to the Fabric Fund, a response to the upcoming repairs to the Church tower and roof.

The Parish Centre is used by a number of organisations, including Starburst Theatre School and the Contact Centre. The financial contributions towards the running expenses of the Parish Centre totalled £7,390 (2022: £6,825). This figure is highly encouraging, as we had feared a big decrease due to the loss of the Slimming World groups; however other organisations such as Muckamore WI have started to make use of our facilities.

Our property in Innishmoyne realised a rental of £7,550. During the year considerable sums were outlaid on repairs and maintenance, such as replacing the rear porch windows and sills. These expenses totalled £4,120, and with the usual expenses of management fees, rates and insurance totalling £1,987, our surplus for the year was £1,443 (2022: £3,369).

The parishioners continue to donate 20p coins in "Smartie tubes" and the proceeds contribute to our annual donation to CMSI, which helps fund students training to be church ministers at the Kitwe Theological Seminary. In 2023 the Smartie tubes total was £1,124 (2022: £1,301).

The "Extra Mile" bucket continues to gather in coins, banknotes and even cheques at the back of the church. At the start of 2023 we were still collecting for Women's Aid; in February and early March we collected for the Bishops' Appeal for victims of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria; and from mid-March onwards we collected

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

for the organisation ShelterBox (this project continued into 2024). As a result of this ongoing work, in 2023 we collected £4,610, but with contributions made in 2022 we were able to hand over £2,200 to Women's Aid, £1,870 to the Bishops' appeal, and an interim payment of £1,600 to ShelterBox.

A total of £1,335 was donated by several individuals and families to general church funds, usually in memory of loved ones. Interest on endowments brought in £6,384. A grant of £500, received from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council, was used to help pay for the Evergreens' Christmas Lunch, and we acknowledge our thanks to the Council for this contribution.

Special collections were lifted at four church services, with the proceeds being passed on as appropriate:

March: £230 raised at the midweek Lenten service for the Rural Deanery project.

September: £450 raised at Claire's ordination for the Bishop's Ministry Fund.

October: £500 raised at our Family Service for NI Hospice.

November: £418 raised at the Town Carol Service for the Mayor's Charities.

### **Expenditure**

The bulk of our expenditure is on "normal" expected items, such as salaries and wages; utility bills for electricity, gas, oil, water, telephone; buildings and contents insurance; buildings maintenance.

In 2023, there were a few items which were not run-of-the-mill:

£ 549 for a new computer for the Vicarage.

£2,028 to A McCartney for Organ magnets.

£ 769 to Hayes & Finch for Rev. Claire Thompson's Communion Set.

£3,942 was paid to Chris McCollum for plans, specifications and schedules for our grant application. Planning for the repairs needed to the Church tower and roof continued during 2023. Seminars organised by NCT and Heritage Lottery were attended, and while encouraging progress was made with NCT, changes to the Heritage Lottery application system meant that we were advised to delay our application until 2024.

### **Annual donations**

The healthy nature of our finances allowed us to continue our tradition of making Christmas donations to a variety of Church organisations and missions, such as the Chaplaincy at Queen's University Belfast, the Chaplaincy at the Missions to Seamen and the Church of Ireland Youth Department. Eleven donations ranging from £250 to £400, and totalling £3,000, were made.

The second annual payment of £1,800, to pay for tuition fees for two students studying at the Theological College in Zambia, was paid via CMS Ireland in April. We are committed to one more annual payment.

The third of three annual payments of £3,000 each to Muckamore Parish Development Association (as described in the 2021 report) was made in December, and we welcomed a speaker from MPDA at the November Select Vestry meeting.

### **In summary**

The financial situation at the end of 2023 is:

Current account	in credit by £41,504.88
Deposit account	in credit by £97,304.48

The Deposit account is designated to cover urgent maintenance and repairs to Church properties as advised by the Diocesan surveyor.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

All other Assets and Liabilities are stated in the Annual Report and all properties are vested in the RCB and owned by the Parish.

All legitimate invoices and requests for payment in 2023 were paid in full when received.

Although our income is below the required level, we have continued to use the accruals accounting system.

#### Public Benefit

The charity Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that our activities help to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a suitable benefit to the beneficiaries. Our activities, and their benefits, are detailed here.

The charity's main function is the advancement of religion, the provision of spiritual care for the elderly or infirm, and the development of younger people in the community. Regular worship and reaching out into the community as well as other activities both social and fundraising have been carried out through the year to fulfil our statement of Public Benefit.

#### The Church

**Church Services** - a full programme of services has been led by the parish clergy team including a monthly Family Service in the Parish Centre on the third Sunday of each month, offering a more informal form of worship aimed at younger families in the parish. This service is preceded by refreshments, giving parishioners an opportunity to chat in a relaxed atmosphere. The parish also took part in the annual 'Big Coffee Break' at the Family Service in October. This was well supported by parishioners, raising £500 for the NI Hospice.

The parish continues to see an increase in the size of its congregation, with several new families from different ethnic backgrounds joining us. A common comment is that an exploratory visit to church had met with such a warm and friendly welcome that the newcomers decided to make All Saints' their place of worship.

On Sunday 2nd April, All Saints' Parish moved to using the Common Cup at Holy Communion services, as directed by the House of Bishops. This was a welcome return to the sharing of the Cup of the Lord and widely accepted by parishioners.

**Parish Choir** – the mixed voice parish choir leads the singing at all services, providing special music on feast days and special occasions. Its members range in age from 11 to over 80 years and the choir practices each Sunday morning from 10am to 11am. The choir continues to be an integral part of worship at all the church services, expertly led by choirmaster and organist Mr Alex McBride who celebrated 10 years of service in June 2023.

**Wednesday morning services** – a service of Holy Communion continued in 2023, preceded by time for a coffee and chat. There is a regular and faithful group of parishioners who benefit greatly, both spiritually and socially, from the shared experience of the Wednesday morning service.

**Late evening office and prayer meeting** – every third Sunday evening parishioners are able to participate in this traditional Late Evening Office service including a time of prayer and reflection.

**Unite** – these monthly services provide a relaxed atmosphere and contemporary music, hopefully appealing to the young and young-at-heart. The praise band consists of musicians and singers (of all ages) from our own congregation led by two members of neighbouring St Jude's parish. This service continues as a permanent feature of the parish.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### The Church Calendar

**Friday 3rd March** – the World Day of Prayer was hosted by All Saints' Parish in 2023. World Day of Prayer is an annual event that brings together people to observe a common day of prayer and learn from women in different countries. This year's WDP focused on Taiwan with the theme, "I have heard about your faith," based on a passage from the Book of Ephesians in the Bible.

**Lenten and Easter Services** – mid-week Lenten services were hosted by the churches around the Rural Deanery and well attended by All Saints' parishioners.

During Holy Week, members of the local town churches joined together for cross-denominational evening services. These were held in High Street Presbyterian, Antrim Methodist and the Christian Fellowship churches, with a special Tenebrae service held in All Saints on Good Friday.

Also, the Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' was able to take place under normal conditions and this very popular event, in its 17th year, was attended by members from across the entire community, helping strengthen a sense of shared community, benefitting the local and surrounding area.

On Easter Day, a special early morning service of Holy Communion was held by the shore of Lough Neagh, followed by breakfast in the Parish Centre. A Family Holy Communion service was celebrated in church at 11.30 am. Both these services were memorable occasions and well attended by the parishioners.

**Sunday 7th May** – the morning service took the form of a special service of thanksgiving as parishioners joined millions of people around the globe to mark the historic coronation of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Over 130 parishioners attended a Coronation buffet lunch in the Parish Centre after the service.

**Sunday 10th September** – the Rev Claire Thompson was ordained Priest by the Bishop of Connor, the Rt Rev George Davison. Rev Peter Blake was the preacher and other clergy present included The Rev Canon Kevin Graham - Director of Ordinands, The Rev Aaron McAlister and The Vicar. This special service was followed by refreshments in the Parish Centre for parishioners, friends and family of Rev Claire.

**Harvest Service** – each year after the special celebrations of Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday, gifts of fruit, vegetables and flowers are distributed to housebound parishioners.

**Saturday 11th November** – a very successful Diocesan Mothers' Union Council meeting was held in the parish church, incorporating the Act of Remembrance and followed by a 'time of quiet reflection' conducted by All Ireland Mothers' Union Chaplain, Archdeacon S R McBride. The meeting was attended by members from across the diocese.

**Sunday 12th November** – the Royal British Legion, Antrim Branch held the Remembrance Service in the parish church attended by local dignitaries and councillors, led by Councillor Mark Cooper BEM, Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Council.

**Sunday 19th November** – the Rite of Confirmation takes place for our young adults when they are approximately 13-14 years old. A series of classes take place on the Sunday evenings preceding the service of Confirmation and these classes centre on the core aspects of the Christian faith as received by the Church of Ireland. Every effort is made to encourage our young adults to continue their faith development through their participation in our Next Steps programme. The Bishop of Connor, the Rt Rev George Davison confirmed ten young people at this special service, attended by family, friends and parishioners.

**Thursday 23rd November** – as part of the ongoing commitment by the parish to support events in the local community, the Antrim Town Carol service was held in the church for the first time. The service followed the 'switching on' of the Christmas tree lights and music was provided by the Ballyduff Silver Band. Local dignitaries, councillors and members of the Antrim community attended this festive service. The retiring collection from this service was donated to the Mayor's nominated charities for his term in office.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

**Monday 4th December** – All Saints' Parish parishioners, Victoria McClements and Connor Taggart, best known as 'Bello Duo', gave a number of free candlelight concerts in churches across Northern Ireland during the autumn months. One of these concerts was held in All Saints in December and enjoyed by parishioners and friends.

**Christmas services** – during Advent, there is a full programme of services including a Family Service of Carols for Christmas, Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols by candlelight, as well as the very popular Christmas Eve service and First Holy Communion of Christmas. Every year, the Funday club children can take part in the Christmas Nativity play which is performed during the Christmas morning service.

**Bible Study** - parishioners met together in February/March 2023, for a bible study based on 'The Chosen' series, a powerful retelling of the story of Jesus and his followers, providing a platform for considerable thought and discussion for those attending. The bible studies were open to all parishioners and aimed to provide a social element as well as the opportunity to explore how religion can have a beneficial impact on our daily lives.

**WhatsApp** - the parish also has an 'active WhatsApp group' with the clergy team, where parishioners regularly comment on the United Christian Broadcaster's Word for Today daily devotional material or share their insights on the daily bible readings set out on the weekly News Sheet.

**Flower Guild** – the church Flower Guild is a small group of volunteers who, on a rota basis, arrange fresh flowers for the church each week. This service provides an opportunity for parishioners and non-parishioners who wish to donate towards church flowers in memory of family members, or to celebrate a special anniversary and is much appreciated by the clergy and those at our services.

**Electronic Tablets** – this facility, for parishioners without internet access who cannot attend church in person, has continued throughout the year. A team of volunteers download the Sunday service on to the tablets, distribute them at the start of the week, and collect them again later in the week. This continues to be hugely appreciated and, as well as allowing parishioners to "attend church", many new friendships were formed on the doorsteps as tablets were delivered and collected.

**Home visits** – pastoral visiting is the backbone of parish life. It enables the clergy to get to know new families in a more relaxed setting of their own homes. It is also a way to keep up regular contacts with those who are house bound. Times of illness or bereavement are occasions when pastoral visits are most effective. Our clergy team prioritise such visits and it is encouraging to know that many members of the parish provide less structured but equally effective visits to their fellow parishioners who are experiencing difficult times.

**Extra Mile projects** – during 2023 the parish supported the purchase of fuel vouchers for Women's Aid in the local community, the annual Bishop's Appeal and also Shelterbox, an organisation providing emergency shelter after a disaster for families in need as they rebuild their lives. Cumulatively this amounted to £5,900.

**Smartie Tube Appeal** – Smartie tubes were distributed at the services over the Christmas period inviting parishioners to fill them with 20p pieces or £1 coins as we continue to support the students who are studying to be future clergymen in the Church of Zambia. The fees for one student are £600 per year and we are committed to sponsoring two students for the next two years.

**Saints Alive** – a quarterly magazine is produced and distributed to parishioners, informing them of all activities in the Parish. During the year, a weekly **News Sheet** continued to be produced for circulation at Morning Service to keep parishioners up to date with current and future events happening in the parish and includes weekly bible readings. A copy of the News Sheet is also available on the parish website each week.

In association with the Oasis Group, the parish has been joining with churches in Antrim to support the **Food Bank project** which has provided much needed practical care for families in the Antrim area who are enduring difficult times.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

**Christian Aid** – over the years, the parish put a good deal of effort into the door to door collection that took place during Christian Aid week. However, due to demographic changes in the town and the two years of Covid, this activity has ceased. Collection envelopes are placed in the pews and parishioners are encouraged to support this worthy cause. The success of the Extra Mile Bucket projects has had an effect on the total collected for Christian Aid.

**European Heritage Open Days (EHOD)** – a celebration of architecture, history and a chance for everyone to explore the wonderful shared cultural heritage right on our doorstep. As part of the 2023 event, All Saints' Parish church opened its doors to the public on Saturday 9th September from 10 am to 4 pm. Volunteer parishioners were on hand to act as visitor guides.

### The Parish Centre

All Saints' Parish Centre is located in the centre of Antrim town, providing a venue used by both parish groups and external organisations from the local and surrounding community.

**Next Steps** - this group consists of young adults from 11 years up to 18 years, meeting on a Sunday evening, from September to June, for fun, food and fellowship. Thanks to the generosity of Education Authority Funding and the Massereene and Ferrard Bequest, which is specifically for youth work, it has been possible to fund trips such as visits to the Glengormley Bowling Lanes, several trips to McDonald's, Go-Karting and Antrim Omniplex. 'Connor Takes the Castle' continues to be a favourite event in the Next Steps' calendar and All Saints' provides one of the largest parish groups attending the event. Next Steps is a group aimed at helping young people to build new friendships and explore faith in an appropriate and encouraging way.

Parish Youth groups are open and welcoming to all young people in the area, catering for all ages, and are well attended; indeed, at times a waiting list for new members has to be in place. The groups are made up of young people of diverse backgrounds, and all are made welcome.

**Scouts** - 5th Antrim Scouts meet every Tuesday evening from September to June. The Scouts cater for young adults between the ages of 10½ to 14½ years and the Explorer Scouts cater for those aged between 14½ and 18 years.

Scouts and Explorer Scouts take part in a programme which enables members to find out about the world in which they live, encourages them to know their own abilities and the importance of keeping fit. The structured badge work helps develop their creative talents and it also provides opportunities to explore their own values and personal attitudes. Scouting is about being with friends, as part of a team, and participating fully in the adventure and opportunities of life. Scouting encourages members to look beyond themselves and we have been involved in activities to raise funds for local charities such as Lough Neagh Rescue.

When weather permits, activities have a focus on the outdoors in preparation for camp which is held under canvas. Scouts learn how to pitch tents, camp safely, prepare a menu for their fellow scouts, incorporating items such as food hygiene, safe storage of foods, vermin control, country code, fire safety and first aid.

**Beavers/Cubs** - there were seven Beavers (girls and boys aged 5yrs 10 months to 7yrs 11 months) during 2023, led by two female leaders and two Explorer Scouts who were given the opportunity to increase their leadership skills in Young Leader roles. A total of 90 badges were awarded covering teamwork, cook, creative, disability awareness, gardener, health and fitness, hobbies, international, explore, safety, sports, and hikes. Many games were played, and fun was had, allowing the young people to reconnect with those of the same age and develop social skills.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

There were eight Cubs (a mixture of girls and boys from various faiths, aged 8 – 11 years) in 2023. The leadership team consisted of two adult female leaders and one adult male leader. There was also an Explorer Scout who is currently undertaking his 'young leader' badge and one former scout volunteering as part of his Duke of Edinburgh Award.

Members of this section continued to engage in a full and busy programme of badgework, earning 142 badges in the following areas: outdoors, team leader, world, artist, book reader, collector, communicator, environmental conservation, fire safety, international, local knowledge, my faith, emergency aid and time on water. 7 Silver awards were attained throughout the year– this is the highest award able to be achieved at this age of Scouting.

The Cubs still do regular litter-picks of the Castle Gardens, Lough Shore and the area around the Parish Centre. Various Cubs also participated in District events such as orienteering, district hike, district football, district flag challenge night, 2 nights indoor camp with another local group, 2-night camp under canvas with 7 other scout groups from Co. Antrim. The outcome of all these activities was that the Cubs learned valuable skills for life, gaining confidence by being encouraged to challenge themselves in a safe environment.

**Brownies** – there were 9 girls (aged 4 to 7 years) during 2023, meeting every Monday evening, mid-September through to the end of April. The Brownie programme includes badge work for interest badges such as construction, book lover, animal lover, family tree etc. The Brownies also acknowledge the Christian holidays of Easter and Christmas and in 2023 had the privilege of performing a short play for the Church Family Service before Christmas. They renew their Promise every year at an evening that parents, friends and family can attend - 'I promise to think about my beliefs and to be kind and helpful'.

**Rainbows** - meet on Monday evenings in the Parish Centre, catering for girls aged between 4 and 7 years. There are currently ten members who enjoy different crafts and games each week, led by two leaders. These crafts and games help the girls to develop useful life skills in a fun way. The girls also do badge work, following guidance from Girlguiding UK. The Rainbows performed a small play at the Church Carol service in December and the girls also take their Rainbow Promise yearly.

**The Funday Club** - is for children of Primary School age, and takes place on Sundays in the Parish Centre, at 12.00 pm until approximately 12.45 pm, except for the third Sunday of the month due to the Family service which the children are encouraged to attend with their families. We regularly have between 10-20 children aged 4 to 13 years who come along to learn about God and have some fun, including a range of activities such as:

- Song and dance to children's worship songs.
- Fun games such as individual and team games which link to our bible story.
- Listen to bible stories and watch short videos of the stories
- Create some crafts which relate to the bible story.
- Group discussions
- Take part in quizzes which are related to the bible stories.
- Learn about other countries and world issues such as famine

Every year, the Funday club children can take part in the Christmas Nativity play which is performed during the Christmas morning service.

Each year the children are invited to attend the Holiday Bible club for a week in the month of August where they enjoy fun, games, craft, songs and learn about Jesus. Each year follows a different theme. In 2023 the theme was John Hardwick's 'Cops and Robbers' and several Funday club children attended. This club is also open to all young children of primary school age from the local community.

The Funday Club is of great benefit to children as they enjoy fellowship together, learn how God can have an impact on their life and feel free to discuss issues and ask questions. They also are learning skills of turn taking, talking and listening and working with others. Parents of the children have the opportunity to focus on the church service knowing that their children are being looked after and also learning about the Christian life. It is

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

also beneficial for the leaders as they enjoy the interaction with the children and feel that they are having a positive impact on the life of the church.

The organisations mentioned above are open not only to young people of our parish, but to children of all denominations (or none), with each organisation meeting from September to June on their allocated evening. We hope that by enjoying events in the Parish Centre, the young people can be attracted to our church worship as well.

**The Evergreens** - a group for the 'young at heart' in the parish and from the local community, meet on the second Tuesday of each month, with a guest speaker covering a wide range of topics, followed by lunch. Up to 50 members regularly enjoyed topics such as the History of Belfast, the 'life of a milkman', as well as several music inspired meetings. In June the Evergreens closed their programme with a special lunch at a local hotel and a Christmas party was held at a local restaurant. All events are held in a Christian atmosphere, helping foster meaningful friendships and a sense of shared community.

**Tots 'n' Us** – meet each week during school term time, supported by volunteers in our Parish offering a welcome and safe place for parents/carers and their youngsters. The volunteers are a very welcoming group who reach out to our local community, and as a result we have parents and carers from different faiths and cultures. All are treated equally, and respect is shown to all beliefs and lifestyle choices. On an average Friday there can be up to 20 adults and up to 30 children. A different craft activity is offered each week, there are ample toys to amuse and educate the children and a sing and rhyme session is included regularly. The children develop self-confidence and social skills which will help them transition to Nursery school, and at the same time the adults have time to relax, get to know other people from the community, build friendships or just enjoy a chat.

**Mothers' Union** - the branch meetings of All Saints' Mother Union are held every second Thursday of the month – excluding the summer months - and are attended by members and non-members. Members range in age from 40 years to approximately 98 years. Members who are no longer able to attend meetings owing to age or illness are visited during the year and kept up to date by the leader and other members. An annual Enrolment Service was held in January 2023, when members renewed their commitment to the Mothers' Union objectives. No new members were enrolled to the branch in 2023. The speakers at the branch meetings during 2023 covered a wide range of interesting topics including a nurse's experience of her work helping families at home and abroad, flower arranging, history of our church, health and wellbeing, 16 days of activism against gender based violence, Oberammergau Passion Play and a party to celebrate King Charles 111 Coronation.

On Sunday 11th June 2023, members and parishioners attended a service of commissioning of the Vicar, Archdeacon S R McBride, as the new All Ireland Mothers' Union Chaplain. The Archdeacon continues as the Mothers' Union Chaplain for Connor Diocese.

Members also attended the annual Festival Service in St Anne's Cathedral, the Area service in Broughshane parish and Diocesan Council meetings.

All Saints' Mothers' Union members enjoy attending the branch meetings, along with the cup of tea and time to chat with friends. They are always ready to volunteer their assistance, preparing and donating a number of toiletry wash bags to Antrim Area hospital, as well as helping at the many events in the parish.

**Bowling Club** - meets on a Wednesday night in the Parish Centre. The club is open to anyone who would enjoy a good night's fun and fellowship, whether they have played bowls before or not. Since the pandemic the club has concentrated on fun bowls each week and would welcome new members.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### Heritage

All Saints' Parish Church in Antrim was built in 1596 and has been described by Dr Paul Larmour, one of Ireland's leading architectural historians, as the finest example of an Elizabethan Gothic church in Ireland.

The church building continues to be the central focus for any major acts of civic worship, the most recent being a service of commemoration following the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September 2023, at which the mayor and representatives of the Council attended.

Although the physical building is over 425 years old and has been the focal point in the lives of so many people, we are grateful that it continues to be a place where the living stones, the disciples of Jesus, still come to worship and receive their spiritual guidance and direction. We take seriously our duty with regards the safe keeping of parish records and items of historical interest, and these can be viewed on request by interested parties.

**In conclusion**, All Saints' is a thriving and vibrant church, with an industrious clergy team and church services well attended. The parish is in a sound financial position, and this report aims to cover examples of the activities of life and worship that goes on in the church enabled by a wide range of volunteers.

Our links with local churches help to ensure the Christian religion continues to thrive throughout the Antrim area. Antrim was once statistically Northern Ireland's, most sectarian town. Thankfully, through the lead of several local churches including All Saints, initiatives such as the Borough's Community Safety Partnership and the Civic Forum (which dealt with flags and emblems issues), the town is a more settled area and incidents of a sectarian nature have diminished.

The clergy from All Saints, St Jude's Muckamore, Antrim Methodist, High Street Presbyterian, St Joseph's and St Comgall's parishes and Antrim Christian Fellowship Church meet quarterly for prayer breakfasts in the 'Top of the Town'. The social gathering helps cement the cordial relationships between the clergy, evaluate the previous events and make plans for coming activities. In a town where each of these denominations are relatively strong and with full parish activities, it is encouraging that every effort is made to look beyond our own denominational boundaries. Our joint Holy Week services, Walk of Witness and Lough Shore Dawn Communion on Easter Sunday are a very significant sign of the good relations that exist not only between the clergy but the parishioners of the above denominations. In December, a packed congregation from all the town's churches joined together in High Street Presbyterian Church to celebrate 50 years in their relocated church premises.

We appreciate the tremendous efforts of our clergy and acknowledge how they strive to keep pushing forward and developing ways to attract more people of all ages into following the way of Christ.

#### **Statement as to disclosure to our examiners**

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

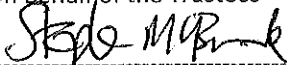
**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)**

**Independent Examiners**

The examiner, Ian Johnston (A.F.A.), for and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants, has indicated his willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning the reappointment was agreed by the Vestry on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

On Behalf of the Trustees



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Independent Examiners Report to the charity trustees of All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 17 to 27.

#### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

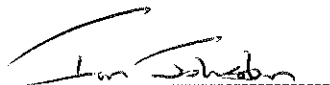
My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b><u>Income</u></b>						
Donations & legacies	3	149,377	31,731	0	181,108	166,034
Other trading activities	4	18,140	0	0	18,140	14,240
Investments	5	2,621	0	5,310	7,931	4,180
Charitable activities	6	970	554	0	1,524	1,524
Other income		0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>171,108</b>	<b>32,285</b>	<b>5,310</b>	<b>208,703</b>	<b>185,978</b>
<b><u>Expenditure on:</u></b>						
Generating funds	7	497	0	0	497	463
Charitable activities	7	154,514	21,182	778	176,474	171,629
Other costs	7	549	6,163	0	6,712	3,303
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>155,560</b>	<b>27,345</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>183,683</b>	<b>175,395</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before transfers</b>		<b>15,548</b>	<b>4,940</b>	<b>4,532</b>	<b>25,020</b>	<b>10,583</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>(2,768)</b>	<b>1,991</b>	<b>777</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>12,780</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>5,309</b>	<b>25,020</b>	<b>10,583</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment assets		895	0	1,219	2,114	(14,507)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>13,675</b>	<b>6,931</b>	<b>6,528</b>	<b>27,134</b>	<b>(3,924)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>134,419</b>	<b>903,299</b>	<b>110,426</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>148,094</b>	<b>910,230</b>	<b>116,954</b>	<b>1,175,278</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>
<b>Broken down as:</b>						
General account fund		148,094	909,024	116,954	1,174,072	1,146,359
Affiliation accounts funds		0	1,206	0	1,206	1,785
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>148,094</b>	<b>910,230</b>	<b>116,954</b>	<b>1,175,278</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>

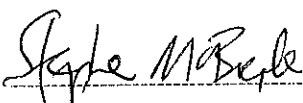
All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Position / (Balance Sheet) as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	780,000	780,000
Investment Properties	11	110,000	110,000
Investments	12	128,726	126,612
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>1,018,726</u>	<u>1,016,612</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	13	21,994	12,201
Cash and cash equivalents		140,015	125,778
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>162,009</u>	<u>137,979</u>
<b>Creditors – amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	5,457	6,447
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>156,552</u>	<u>131,532</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>1,175,278</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>
<b>The funds of the parish</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	15	145,216	130,482
Designated funds	15	2,878	3,937
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		<u>148,094</u>	<u>134,419</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	15	910,230	903,299 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Endowment Funds</b>	15	116,954	110,426
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>1,175,278</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 25 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 25 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

#### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

##### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Parish meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

##### b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Parish generally meets its day to day working capital requirements from its annual income. The Trustees have obtained and reviewed cash flow forecasts for the coming year and based on these are satisfied that the Parish has resources to provide a reasonable expectation that it can continue to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. Therefore, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis

##### c) Income

Plate Collections, Weekly Envelopes, Fabric Fund income, Gift Aid and catering income are accounted for on a cash receipts basis as the amount is collected. Any gift aid not received at the year end is included as a debtor.

Income arising from the rental of Parish Centre facilities to third parties is recognised when the parish has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Legacies are included within Income under either unrestricted or restricted funds according to the terms under which the donation is made and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty. Donations and gifts in kind are brought into the accounts at their fair value to the Parish.

##### d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### e) Tangible assets

The assets of the Parish comprise:-

- Church Hall
- Vicarage
- Other property

The Church Buildings at Church Street, Antrim are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These Heritage assets are not included on the balance sheet as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the parish.

The Church Hall is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2023. No depreciation has been provided on the Church Hall as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The Vicarage is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2023. No depreciation has been provided on the Vicarage as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The other property, namely the house at Inishmoyne, is also recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2023. No depreciation has been provided on the house as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

##### f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprising investment properties, investments in equities and investment in RCB/CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each balance sheet date. Investments in unquoted investments are recorded at cost and are assessed annually for impairment. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the fair value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and fair value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year. Both realised and unrealised gains and losses in investments are reported within "Net Gains / (Losses) on Investments" within the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within creditors amounts falling due within 1 year.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### h) Financial instruments

The Parish only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

##### i) Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the Parish.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income there from is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the Parish.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

#### 2. Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Parish's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

#### 3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Weekly envelopes / FWO	113,782	19,061	0	132,843	119,693
Tax recovered on Donations	23,268	4,060	0	27,328	23,954
Collections/donations	8,593	1,524	0	10,117	13,043
Mission and Charity giving	0	2,723	0	2,723	1,967
Grants	3,734	0	0	3,734	6,188
Other income - affiliations	0	4,363	0	4,363	1,189
	<u>149,377</u>	<u>31,731</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>181,108</u>	<u>166,034</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Rental Income	7,550	0	0	7,550	7,015
Use of Church hall	7,390	0	0	7,390	6,825
Other	3,200	0	0	3,200	400
	<u>18,140</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>18,140</u>	<u>14,240</u>

5. Investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Interest on investments	1,162	0	31	1,193	274
Dividends from investments	1,459	0	5,279	6,738	3,906
	<u>2,621</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>5,310</u>	<u>7,931</u>	<u>4,180</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Weddings, baptisms and funerals	970	0	0	970	1,220
Youth weekend	0	450	0	450	0
Publications	0	104	0	104	304
	<u>970</u>	<u>554</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,524</u>	<u>1,524</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

7. Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Endowment Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
<b>Generating funds</b>					
Fundraising costs	497	0	0	497	463
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Wages and salaries	98,020	0	0	98,020	90,216
Diocesan costs/assessment	15,435	0	0	15,435	19,870
Property running costs	14,523	0	0	14,523	18,404
Charitable donations	11,820	3,195	0	15,015	10,951
Administration costs	8,191	0	0	8,191	8,057
Property repairs and maintenance	0	11,977	0	11,977	11,585
Congregation running costs	6,525	0	0	6,525	8,043
Event expenses and catering	0	950	778	1,728	2,486
Publications	0	118	0	118	316
Other expenses - affiliations	0	4,942	0	4,942	1,701
	<u>154,514</u>	<u>21,182</u>	<u>778</u>	<u>176,474</u>	<u>171,629</u>
<b>Other costs</b>					
Property improvements and equipment	549	6,163	0	6,712	3,303

Governance costs are included within Administration costs above.

8. Taxation

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

#### 9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Salaries and wages	95,039	87,187
National insurance costs	32	167
Employer pension costs	2,949	2,862
Total	<u>98,020</u>	<u>90,216</u>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Ministerial support	2	2
Other staff	1	1
Premises maintenance	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

There are no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

#### Key Management and Trustees

Key management are deemed to comprise the Trustees. The parish paid expenses of £4,346 (2022: £5,802) relating to the running costs of the Vicarage which is occupied by the Vicar. The following Trustees received remuneration and/or reimbursement of the following amounts during the year:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
The Ven Dr SR McBride	46,234	43,177
Rev Peter Blake	24,836	22,087
Cecil Barton	95	201
Claire Thompson	0	380
David Tate	72	90
Cynthia Cherry	0	817
Irene Gates	270	179
John McMaster	137	0
Paul Smyth	138	0

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Total
	£	£
<b>Cost</b>		
At beginning of the year	780,000	780,000
Additions	0	0
At end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At beginning of the year	0	0
Depreciation	0	0
Disposals	0	0
At end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net book value at beginning of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
Net book value at end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>

11. Investment properties

	£
Balance at beginning of the year	110,000
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
Fair Value Gains / (Losses)	0
Balance at end of the year	<u>110,000</u>

12. Investments

	Listed Investments £	Other Investments £	Total £
Balance at beginning of the year	0	126,612	126,612
Profit/(loss) on investments	0	2,114	2,114
Balance at end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>128,726</u>	<u>128,726</u>
<b>Analysis of Investments</b>			
Other unlisted investments	0	128,726	128,726
	<u>0</u>	<u>128,726</u>	<u>128,726</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

13. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Sundry debtors and prepayments	21,994	12,201
	<u>21,994</u>	<u>12,202</u>

14. Creditors Amounts Due within 1 Year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Accruals and other creditors	5,457	6,447
	<u>5,457</u>	<u>6,447</u>

15. Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0	780,000	0	780,000
Investment Property	0	0	110,000	0	110,000
Investments	17,081	0	0	111,645	128,726
Current Assets	133,592	2,878	20,230	5,309	162,009
Current Liabilities	(5,457)	0	0	0	(5,457)
<b>Net assets at 31 Dec 2023</b>	<u>145,216</u>	<u>2,878</u>	<u>910,230</u>	<u>116,954</u>	<u>1,175,278</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 (continued)

16. Funds of the Parish

	At 1 Jan 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Profit/ (loss) on investment assets £	At 31 Dec 2023 £
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
William & Irene Whiteside Trust	16,018	31	0	(1)	(1,615)	14,433
Masserene & Ferrard Trust	94,408	5,279	(778)	778	2,834	102,521
	<u>110,426</u>	<u>5,310</u>	<u>(778)</u>	<u>777</u>	<u>1,219</u>	<u>116,954</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
General Fund	901,514	27,922	(22,403)	1,991	0	909,024
Affiliation Funds	1,785	4,363	(4,942)	0	0	1,206
	<u>903,299</u>	<u>32,285</u>	<u>(27,345)</u>	<u>1,991</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>910,230</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Fund	130,482	166,498	(149,890)	(2,768)	895	145,217
Designated Fund	3,937	4,610	(5,670)	0	0	2,877
	<u>134,419</u>	<u>171,108</u>	<u>(155,560)</u>	<u>(2,768)</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>148,094</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,148,144</u>	<u>208,703</u>	<u>(183,683)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,114</u>	<u>1,175,278</u>

Purposes of Endowment Funds

- Income from the William & Irene Whiteside Trust is to be used to provide Sunday school teaching materials.
- Income from the Masserene & Ferrard Trust is to be used to provide teaching materials and resources for the children of the parish.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

- Fabric Fund: This is a fund to assist with the cost of building repairs, improvements and renovations.
- Affiliation Funds: These are funds for the affiliations' running expenses and income.
- Mission and Charities Fund: This is a fund to be used towards mission and charity
- Church properties: These are properties for the use of the Parish with sale proceeds used strictly for other properties as specified by the RCB.
- Anonymous donation: a donation which is to be used to be used for youth work.
- Donation of £1,000 to be used to purchase a credence table.
- Donations in memory of Sadie Jenkins, Peter Chestnutt and Bert Kennedy: to be used to purchase items in their memory.

**Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101049

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# Annual return

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## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Independent Examiners Report to the charity trustees of All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2023, which are set out on pages 17 to 27.

#### **Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

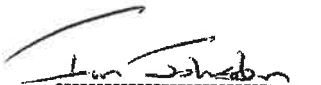
My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101049

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# Accounts

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**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**  
**Annual report and financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2022**

**Charities Number: NIC101049**

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022**

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## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **References and administrative details**

Charity Name: All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Charity Registration Number: NIC101049

Contact Address: All Saints' Parish Centre  
Railway Street  
Antrim  
BT41 4AE

### **Trustees**

#### **Trustees from 01-01-2022 – 31-12-2022**

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Lawrence Hutchins, John Wallace, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford and Irene Gates.

#### **Trustees approving this report**

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Lawrence Hutchins, John Wallace, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford and Irene Gates.

### **Principal Office-bearers**

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr David Tate
People's Church Warden:	Mr Lawrence Hutchins

### **Independent Examiner**

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

### **Bankers**

Ulster Bank  
8 Market Square  
Antrim  
BT41 4AT

## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for All Saints' Parish Church Antrim for the year ended 31 December 2022.

All Saints' Parish Church, Antrim, is situated in the heart of Antrim town, and the Parish Centre is one minute's walk away in Railway Street.

Correspondence can be addressed to:

The Vicar, Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride  
The Vicarage  
10 Vicarage Gardens  
ANTRIM, BT41 4JP

Matters of a financial nature can be addressed to:

Mrs. Brian Neill  
c/o All Saints' Parish Centre  
18 Railway Street  
ANTRIM, BT41 4AE

### **Purpose**

The principal function of the Parish is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, social and ecumenical.

All the functions of the Parish relate to the advancement of religion through holding regular worship and communicating with and caring for parishioners of all ages especially the sick and elderly and others in our community.

The Parish has the custody of many historical items and the maintenance of these and the various buildings is undertaken as a secondary charitable purpose. All properties and other valuable items are fully insured and regularly revalued.

### **Governance, Structure and Management**

#### **Governance**

The principal document for the governance of Antrim Parish is Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, which governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. Diocesan Regulations are also issued periodically, and these interpret some aspects of the Constitution where that responsibility has been delegated by the General Synod to Diocesan Councils and Synods.

The other major factor in parish governance is civil law, particularly Health and Safety, Child Protection legislation, Safeguarding Trust regulations, and Employment and Management procedures for lay staff. For example, as children and young adults are important in our Charity, we carry out the necessary checks on all youth leaders and we are fully compliant with the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust.

A Health and Safety team ensures that the users of the Parish Centre comply with the Conditions of Use and are fully compliant with Fire Evacuation procedures and that all Parish Centre users carry out and adhere to Risk Assessments. Regular Fire Evacuations are carried out in both Church and Parish Centre, and procedures are updated when improvements are recommended.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### Structure

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18, and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the parish; this allows them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry.

Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once a year, and at the Annual General Vestry meeting, held at Easter time, the Select Vestry members are elected. The Select Vestry hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually, and there is no limit to the number of terms that they may serve. The members of the Select Vestry make up the Charity Trustees.

#### Trustees:

The Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride Chairman  
Jacqueline Adams  
Cecil Barton  
Sylvia Barton  
Rev Peter Blake  
Colin Brooks  
Cynthia Cherry  
Brian Ford  
Irene Gates

William Hurst  
Lawrence Hutchins  
Brian Neill  
Paul Smyth  
Wendy Smyth  
David Tate  
Claire Thompson  
Sheila Thompson  
John Wallace

#### Management

The Select Vestry meets regularly at times fixed by the members, with the Vicar or the Rev Blake in the Chair. Ad hoc meetings may be called by the Vicar when necessary. Vestry meetings in 2022 were held in person.

The primary responsibility of the Select Vestry is to ensure that the ministry and witness of the Parish is maintained, developed and safeguarded both legally and financially. It has specific responsibility for the administration of the Parish finances and the care of the buildings both internally and externally ("Finance, Fabric and Furnishings"). It is also the legal employer for all lay staff and has responsibility for Health and Safety, insurance and the care of the Parish's assets.

The Select Vestry may delegate responsibility for aspects of its work to persons or to sub-committees, who report back to the Select Vestry. The Finances are managed by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Brian Neill, who reports back to the other Trustees at Vestry meetings monthly or in-between if necessary. The Trustees are updated with the financial situation at each meeting.

The security and safeguarding of all monies are important to the Trustees and all money is counted under dual control.

The Church of Ireland organises 5-yearly inspections of its buildings which are carried out by a qualified architect or conservation specialist with a qualification in historic buildings conservation. Parishes are supplied with a Quinquennial Inspection Report which may contain recommendations for repairs. As a parish we are diligent in our compliance to carry out the recommend repairs. In recent years, following receipt of our Quinquennial Reports from the Diocesan Surveyor, Chris McCollum, we have undertaken improvements such as the erection of external safety railings, internal balustrading in the church gallery and improvements in the vicarage.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

In view of all the various organisations that utilise the Parish Centre (see Public Benefit section), and events such as funeral teas, a catering team has been formed. The team members all hold HABC Level 2 in Food Safety in Catering, a qualification which is updated regularly. The local Council inspects the premises regularly and we currently have a rating of 5.

#### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr David Tate
People's Church Warden:	Mr Lawrence Hutchins

#### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson & Wilson, Chartered Accountants  
22/30, Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena. BT43 7AA

#### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
8 Market Square  
Antrim. BT41 4AT

#### Finances

##### *Income*

Our main sources of income, the Freewill Offerings and Fabric Fund donations, have been healthy in 2022. The Freewill Offering (including Gift Aid) totalled £124,107, and Fabric Fund (including Gift Aid) came to £19,540. Taken together, this was £8,211 more than 2021, an increase of just over 6 per cent. It is worth noting that while we have lost loyal parishioners through bereavement, we have attracted new members into the congregation. Loose donations on the collection plate at the Sunday and Wednesday services came to a total of £3,302 (including Gift Aid).

The Parish Centre is used by a number of organisations, including Starburst Theatre School, Slimming World and the Contact Centre. The financial contributions towards the running expenses of the Parish Centre totalled £6,825. A note of caution must be recorded here, as both Slimming World groups have now stopped, which will mean a potential loss of £4,500 in 2023.

A few years ago, the Parish was left a property by a parishioner, and this is rented out; rent for 2022 came to £7,015; expenses (management fees, repairs, insurance and rates) came to £3,646, leaving a balance of £3,369.

The parishioners continue to donate 20p pieces in "Smartie tubes" and these proceeds are sent to CMS to assist projects in the Diocese of northern Zambia; in 2022 the Smartie tubes total was £1,301.

The "Extra Mile" bucket continues to gather in coins, banknotes, and cheques at the back of the church. At the end of 2021 we had been collecting for a project close to home, ie the new WW2 memorial in the Massereene Chapel of our church. In 2022, we decided on a project outside the church but still close to home by supporting the efforts of Women's Aid to provide fuel vouchers for families affected by domestic violence, suffering hardship and fuel stress in our local community. By the end of December, we had raised over £3,800, and when this project comes to an end in February 2023, we hope to have raised close to £4,000.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

A total of £5,375 was donated to the Church by several individuals and families, sometimes in memory of loved ones, to be used for general church purposes or specific purposes such as the purchase of candlesticks for the Massereene Chapel, for the tower repair work, or for projects in Zambia. £500 of this amount was received from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council to help pay for the Evergreens' Christmas Lunch, and we acknowledge our thanks to the Council for their donation.

#### **Expenditure**

The bulk of our expenditure is on "normal" expected items, such as salaries and wages; utility bills for electricity, gas, oil, water, telephone; buildings and contents insurance; buildings maintenance.

In 2022, there were a few items which were not run-of-the-mill:

January	redundancy package for the Parish Administrator - £3,208
May	payment of £354 to NI Jobs.com to advertise for a new Parish Administrator* payment of £99 to Bridge HR Consulting for advice on job description (*no appointment was made; two members of the Select Vestry volunteered to act as Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer)
July	£840 paid to Diocese of Connor for second year Ordained Local Ministry fees
August	£380 paid to Croft Design for stoles for our soon-to-be-ordained deacon
August	two laptops were purchased for the new office bearers; total £760
September	£1,350 paid for new kitchen range for the vicarage

At the Select Vestry meeting on 26th March 2022, we were advised by Mr Chris McCollum, Historic Building Consultant, about the results of the drone survey carried out on the church roof, tower and spire. Work which needs to be undertaken includes replacement of rain goods (guttering, down pipes etc) on the roof, and repairs to the stonework on the tower, with the North and South Elevations needing major attention. The consultant agreed to review the project and advise on which tasks need to be prioritised, with the earliest work possibly starting in spring 2023. Building costs are continually spiralling, and the parish needs to be thinking about total costs of circa £100,000, which could be split into two or more separate projects. Consideration needs to be given to organisations which might provide grant support.

Two payments have been made to Chris McCollum in 2022:

March	Drone survey of tower and spire £1,815
November	Prepare drawings etc for grant applications £3,257.

#### **Annual donations**

The healthy nature of our finances allowed us to continue our tradition of making Christmas donations to a variety of Church organisations and missions, such as the Chaplaincy at Queen's University, Belfast and the Chaplaincy at the Missions to Seafarers. A thank you letter from the missionary organisation USPG, detailing how one young HIV positive mother in Zambia had been helped to deliver a healthy baby free from HIV, was read to the congregation on Christmas morning.

The first payment of £1,800, to pay the annual tuition fees for two students studying at the Theological College in Zambia, was paid via CMS Ireland in April. We are committed to two more annual payments.

The second of three annual payments of £3,000 each to Muckamore Parish Development Association (as described in last year's report) was made in December, and we will welcome a speaker from MPDA in mid-2023.

The donations described in the last section came to a total of £7,600.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### *In summary*

The financial situation at the end of 2022 is:

Current account	in credit by £27,850.93
Deposit account	in credit by £96,142.44

The Deposit account is designated to cover urgent maintenance and repairs to Church properties as advised by the Diocesan surveyor.

All other Assets and Liabilities are stated in the Annual Report and all properties are vested in the RCB and owned by the Parish. All legitimate invoices and requests for payment in 2022 were paid in full when received. Although our income is below the required level, we have continued to use the accruals accounting system.

#### **Public Benefit**

The charity Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that our activities help to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a suitable benefit to the beneficiaries. Our activities, and their benefits, are detailed here.

The charity's main function is the advancement of religion, the provision of spiritual care for the elderly or infirm, and the development of younger people in the community. Regular worship and reaching out into the community as well as other activities both social and fundraising have been carried out through the year to fulfil our statement of Public Benefit.

**Church Services** - the year 2022 continued with government restrictions being adhered to until the beginning of April when there was an easing of Covid-19 mitigations and measures in parishes in Northern Ireland. As a parish, we moved forward cautiously with the lifting of some restrictions at Sunday services, effective from Sunday 3rd April 2022. Also, church service times reverted to 8.30 am and 11.30 am from Sunday 24th April 2022. It continued to be evident how much people appreciated, and benefitted from, being able to worship in person with the reassurance the parish team remained mindful of government updates and guidance.

It has been encouraging to see an increase in the size of our congregation, with several new families from different ethnic backgrounds joining us. A common comment is that an exploratory visit to church had met with such a warm and friendly welcome that the newcomers decided to make All Saints' their place of worship.

**Choir** – the mixed voice parish choir leads the singing at all services, providing special music on feast days and special occasions. Its members range in age from 11 to over 80 years and the choir practices each Sunday morning from 10am to 11am. In October 2022, the choir led the singing at the 'live' Radio Ulster broadcast of Morning Service.

**Flower Guild** – the church Flower Guild is a small group of volunteers who, on a rota basis, arrange fresh flowers for the church each week. This service resumed towards the end of 2022 after Covid-19 restrictions eased and provides an opportunity for parishioners who wish to donate towards church flowers in memory of family members, or to celebrate a special anniversary.

**Wednesday morning services** – a service of Holy Communion continued in 2022, preceded by time for a coffee and chat. There is a regular and faithful group of parishioners who benefit greatly, both spiritually and socially, from the shared experience of the Wednesday morning service.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

**Sunday 18th September** - the ordination of The Rev Claire Thompson, by Bishop George Davison, as Deacon in All Saints' Parish. Claire, who has been a member of All Saints since her birth, will be serving among us in a place which has helped to shape her faith and vocation. Rev Aaron McAlister was the preacher on the day and it was through Aaron and Melanie's friendship with Claire that the final pieces of Claire's vocation were put in place.

In September 2022, parishioners donated a range of items supporting Kenny Campbell to join a convoy of **humanitarian aid** being transported to the Ukrainian border by members of the Harley Owners' Group. This was an initiative of local organisations and businesses, including All Saints' Parish, to send humanitarian aid to those fleeing the turbulent conflict in Ukraine.

**Sunday 13th November** - the Royal British Legion, Antrim Branch held the Remembrance Service in the parish church and involved The Rev Colin McDowell, High Street Presbyterian Church.

Readings by: Commander Ian Allen, Royal Navy Reserve, Alderman Paul Michael BEM, RBL, Antrim Branch Chairman. Sermon by The Venerable Dr Stephen McBride (Chaplain to the RBL, Antrim Branch). Act of Remembrance conducted by Canon Sean Emerson, Parish of Antrim. The Exhortation (Standards Dip) by Mr Ron Harrison, Branch President.

**Late evening office and prayer meeting** – every third Sunday evening parishioners are able to participate in this traditional Late Evening Office service including a time of prayer and reflection.

**Unite** - these monthly services provide a relaxed atmosphere and contemporary music, hopefully appealing to the young and young-at-heart. The praise band consists of musicians and singers (of all ages) from our own congregation led by two members of neighbouring St Jude's parish. This service continues as a permanent feature of the parish.

All activities shared with the other churches in the area throughout the year, such as the mid-week Lenten Deanery services, the cross-denominational Holy Week evening services, the 'Walk for Witness' on Good Friday and the Easter Sunday morning service at the Lough Shore resumed in 2022. The re-introduction of these events helped develop a renewed sense of shared community, benefitting the local and surrounding area.

**Electronic Tablets** – This facility, for parishioners without internet access who cannot attend church in person, has continued throughout the year. A team of volunteers download the Sunday service on to the tablets, distribute them at the start of the week, and collect them again later in the week. This continues to be hugely appreciated, and as well as allowing parishioners to "attend church", many new friendships were formed on the doorsteps as tablets were delivered and collected.

**Bible Study** - continued during the year, based on 'The Chosen' series, a powerful retelling of the story of Jesus and his followers, providing a platform for considerable thought and discussion for those attending. The bible studies were open to all parishioners and aimed to provide a social element as well as the opportunity to explore how religion can have a beneficial impact on our daily lives.

With the lifting of Covid restrictions, the clergy team was able to resume a rolling programme of home and hospital visits, checking on the wellbeing of parishioners, encouraging a continued or renewed participation in parish life, and administering Holy Communion to the housebound or hospitalised.

Attendance at assembly in the local primary school to share the Christian message with pupils was resumed in May 2022; likewise the pastoral visits by parishioners to the housebound and people in Nursing Homes. These visits bring comfort and a sense of belonging, important to people who otherwise may feel lonely and isolated, and in their absence many parishioners responded by establishing regular telephone contact with other parishioners, checking on their physical and emotional health, and offering practical help with shopping and

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

other errands; one parishioner commented, "In these troubled times, the congregation had pulled together as one big family". Thankfully, with the lifting of Covid restrictions, pastoral visits have been re-established.

#### The Parish Centre

All Saints' Parish Centre is located in the centre of Antrim town, providing a venue used by both parish groups and external organisations from the local and surrounding community.

**Next Steps** - this group consists of young adults from 11 years up to 18 years, meeting on a Sunday evening, from September to June, for fun, food and fellowship. The parish finances Next Steps to enable them to take part in Diocesan events such as 'Connor Takes the Castle' and other outings. Next Steps is a group aimed at helping young people to build new friendships and explore faith in an appropriate and encouraging way.

Parish Youth groups are open and welcoming to all young people in the area, catering for all ages, and are well attended; indeed, at times a waiting list for new members has to be in place. The groups are made up of young people of diverse backgrounds, and all are made welcome.

**Scouts** - 5th Antrim Scouts meet every Tuesday evening from September to June. The Scouts cater for young adults between the ages of 10½ to 14½ years and the Explorer Scouts cater for those aged between 14½ and 18 years.

Scouts and Explorer Scouts take part in a programme which enables members to find out about the world in which they live, encourages them to know their own abilities and the importance of keeping fit. The structured badge work helps develop their creative talents and it also provides opportunities to explore their own values and personal attitudes. Scouting is about being with friends, as part of a team, and participating fully in the adventure and opportunities of life. Scouting encourages members to look beyond themselves and we have been involved in activities to raise funds for local charities such as Lough Neagh Rescue.

When weather permits, activities have a focus on the outdoors in preparation for camp which is held under canvas. Scouts learn how to pitch tents, camp safely, prepare a menu for their fellow scouts, incorporating items such as food hygiene, safe storage of foods, vermin control, country code, fire safety and first aid.

**Beavers/Cubs** - there were seven Beavers (girls and boys aged 5yrs 10 months to 7years 11 months) when the Section started back in March 2022 after a Covid-19 break. There were three female leaders (for two this was the first time that they had become community volunteers), one male leader and two Explorer Scouts who were given the opportunity to increase their leadership skills in Young Leader roles. Badges covered included money skills, science and gardening, including planting a flower bed at the rear entrance of the Parish Centre. Many games were played and fun was had, allowing the young people to reconnect with those of the same age and develop social skills lost during the Covid-19 pandemic.

There were fourteen Cubs (a mixture of girls and boys from various faiths, aged 8 – 11 years) in March 2022, but this had dropped to ten by December 2022 due to those older Cubs moving up to the Scouts section. The leadership team consisted of two adult female leaders and one adult male leader. Many challenge badges were covered during the year including camping, crafts, local knowledge, model making, emergency aid, athletics and book reading. Seven Silver Awards were attained – the highest award able to be achieved at this level of Scouting. It was decided to hold extra outdoor Cub sessions during the summer months. This gave the opportunity to learn about outdoor skills including tent erection and care, orienteering and local knowledge. These activities resulted in the Cubs feeling pride and ownership of the natural beauty and heritage of their own community and led them to do regular litter-picks in the Castle Gardens, Lough Shore, and the area around the Parish Centre. Various Cubs also participated in District events such as a colour run, district hike, and challenge night.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

The Cubs also helped to plant a woodland to celebrate the Group's tenth anniversary, renewed their promise in British Sign Language, helped to raise items to be sent to Ukraine, and participated in a Christmas family celebration. All leaders in the section renewed their first aid training. The outcome of all these activities was that the Cubs learned valuable life skills, gaining confidence by being encouraged to challenge themselves in a safe environment.

**Brownies** – 2022 was a successful year for this organisation, with numbers nearly doubling. Brownies cater for girls aged between 7 and 10 years, when the girls can then move on to Guides. They met regularly in the Parish Centre where they were offered a wide range of activities to help the girls learn new skills, encourage them to try new activities and to work in groups. Some of these included art, dance, action activities and sport.

Over the past year Brownies celebrated the Queen's jubilee, taking the opportunity of meeting up with other Brownies and Guides to celebrate. The girls also sent cards they made to the Queen and received a letter back – a lovely memento for each girl. On the sad passing of the Queen, we discussed the Queen's service to the country and her involvement in guiding. During the year brownies took part in the adventure skill builder 2 and several girls earned theme badges and some are working towards the theme award associated with first aid response. In 2022 the girls made and sold keyrings as a fundraising project; the money raised was equally divided between a donation to Brain Tumour Research and to help Brownie funds.

**Rainbows** - started up again in October after the Covid restrictions were eased. They met on Monday evenings in the Parish Centre, catering for girls aged between 4 and 7 years, enjoying different crafts and games each week. The girls started their storytelling, agility, and healthy mind badges. These tasks alternate weekly and help the girls to develop useful life skills in a fun way.

**The Funday Club** - for children of Primary School age, resumed in September 2022 in the Parish Centre, at 12.00 pm until approximately 12.45 pm, except for the third Sunday of the month due to the Family service which the children are encouraged to attend with their families. We regularly have between 10-20 children aged 4 to 13 years who come along to learn about God and have some fun, including a range of activities such as:

- Song and dance to children's worship songs.
- Fun games such as individual and team games which link to our bible story.
- Listen to bible stories and watch short videos of the stories
- Create some crafts which relate to the bible story.
- Group discussions
- Take part in quizzes which are related to the bible stories.
- Learn about other countries and world issues such as famine

Every year, the Funday club children can take part in the Christmas Nativity play which is performed during the Christmas morning service. Last year they also received invitations to the youth organisations' 'movie and games night' where they watched 'Elf', played games, and enjoyed snacks.

Each year the children are invited to attend the Holiday Bible club for a week in the month of August where they enjoy fun, games, craft, songs and learn about Jesus. Each year follows a different theme. In 2022 the theme was 'Jungle Jamboree' and several Funday club children attended. This club is also open to all young children of primary school age from the local community.

The Funday Club is of great benefit to children as they enjoy fellowship together, learn how God can have an impact on their life and feel free to discuss issues and ask questions. They also are learning skills of turn taking, talking and listening and working with others. Parents of the children have the opportunity to focus on the church service knowing that their children are being looked after and also learning about the Christian life. It is also beneficial for the leaders as they enjoy the interaction with the children and feel that they are having a positive impact on the life of the church.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

The organisations mentioned above are open not only to young people of our parish, but to children of all denominations (or none), with each organisation meeting from September to June on their allocated evening. We hope that by enjoying events in the Parish Centre, the young people can be attracted to our church worship as well.

**The Inbetweeners** - an occasional social group for adults aged 20-50+ to enjoy a good night out together in a relaxed setting. Activities have included meals out, Go Karting and quiz nights. The Inbetweeners provides an opportunity for adults to develop deeper, supportive friendships with likeminded people.

**The Evergreens** - a group for the over 50s, meets monthly, with a guest speaker covering a wide range of topics, followed by lunch. There is also an outing in the summer and a party at Christmas time. Townspeople who are not parishioners regularly attend the Evergreens. With the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions in 2022 there was a welcome return of these Evergreen events, held in a Christian atmosphere, helping foster meaningful friendships and a sense of shared community.

**Tots 'n' Us** – each week during school term time, volunteers in our Parish run Tots 'n' Us for parents/carers and their youngsters. The volunteers are a very welcoming group who reach out to our local community, and as a result we have parents and carers from different faiths and cultures. All are treated equally, and respect is shown to all beliefs and lifestyle choices. Approximately 25-35 adults attend regularly with their children. A different craft activity is offered each week, and there are ample toys to amuse and educate the children. The children develop social skills which will help them transition to Nursery school, and at the same time the adults have time to relax and build friendships.

**Mothers' Union** - the branch meetings of All Saints' Mother Union are held every second Thursday of the month – excluding the summer months. Members range in age from 40 years to approximately 98 years. During 2022, the speakers covered a wide range of interesting topics from Woman's Aid; local Council on recycling waste; the life of Amy Carmichael; Church Ministry; Fun Night with the 'Panel'.

A day outing was held in May to a Flower Festival at Castlerock, shopping in Coleraine and a carvery meal at Tullyglass Hotel. Friends from outside the parish joined us and also enjoyed the day trip. An afternoon trip in December to a Christmas Tree Festival and tea at Ballycastle was also appreciated. Other Mothers' Union events during the year included a Tea Party with Muckamore branch, Area Service in St Patrick's, Ballymena; Festival Service at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast and the Annual Gathering at the Waterfront Hall, Belfast which was an opportunity to meet members from across Britain and Ireland and to hear the tremendous work by MU members worldwide.

All Saints' Mothers' Union members enjoy attending the meetings, the cup of tea and the chat with friends. They are also always ready to volunteer their assistance at the many events in the parish.

**Bowling Club** - meets on a Wednesday night in the Parish Centre. The club is open to anyone who would enjoy a good night's fun and fellowship, whether they have played bowls before or not. Due to the Covid pandemic the club paused its participation in the churches league matches to concentrate on fun bowls each week.

In association with the Oasis Group, the parish has been joining with churches in Antrim to support the **Food Bank project** which has provided much needed practical care for families in the Antrim area who are enduring difficult times.

**Saints Alive** – a quarterly magazine is produced and distributed to parishioners, informing them of all activities in the Parish. From December 2022, a weekly News Sheet has been produced for circulation at Morning Service to keep parishioners up to date with current and future events happening in the parish. The News Sheet also includes weekly bible readings.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### Heritage

All Saints' Parish Church in Antrim was built in 1596 and has been described by Dr Paul Larmour, one of Ireland's leading architectural historians, as the finest example of an Elizabethan Gothic church in Ireland.

The church building continues to be the central focus for any major acts of civic worship, the most recent being a service of commemoration following the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022, at which the mayor and representatives of the Council attended.

Although the physical building is over 425 years old and has been the focal point in the lives of so many people, we are grateful that it continues to be a place where the living stones, the disciples of Jesus, still come to worship and receive their spiritual guidance and direction. We take seriously our duty with regards the safe keeping of parish records and items of historical interest, and these can be viewed on request by interested parties.

**In conclusion**, All Saints' is a thriving and vibrant church, with an industrious clergy team and church services well attended. The parish is in a sound financial position, and this report aims to cover examples of the activities of life and worship that goes on in the church enabled by a wide range of volunteers.

Our links with local churches help to ensure the Christian religion continues to thrive throughout the Antrim area. Antrim was once statistically Northern Ireland's, most sectarian town. Thankfully, through the lead of several local churches including All Saints, initiatives such as the Borough's Community Safety Partnership and the Civic Forum (which dealt with flags and emblems issues), the town is a more settled area and incidents of a sectarian nature have diminished.

The clergy and parishioners within the town continue to meet regularly and the Good Friday Walk of witness's impact has not dwindled after a period of almost twenty years and two years of Covid. This year, even with Covid restrictions not allowing us to visit the inside of our churches along the walk, we had upwards of 300 people gather in the Castle Gardens at the end of our walk.

We appreciate the tremendous efforts of our clergy and acknowledge how they strive to keep pushing forward and developing ways to attract more people of all ages into following the way of Christ.

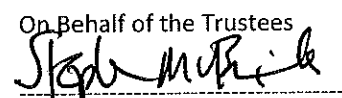
#### **Statement as to disclosure to our examiners**

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

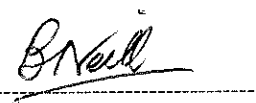
- there is no relevant information of which the Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

#### **Independent Examiners**

The examiner, Ian Johnston (A.F.A.), for and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants, has indicated his willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning the reappointment was agreed by the Vestry on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

On Behalf of the Trustees  


Ven. Dr S.R. McBride  
Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

  
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Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Independent Examiners Report to the charity trustees of All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 15 to 25.

#### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income</b>						
Donations & legacies	3	138,063	27,971	0	166,034	156,707
Other trading activities	4	14,240	0	0	14,240	11,715
Investments	5	1,647	0	2,533	4,180	4,136
Charitable activities	6	1,220	304	0	1,524	873
Other income		0	0	0	0	9,699
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>155,170</b>	<b>28,275</b>	<b>2,533</b>	<b>185,978</b>	<b>183,130</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Generating funds	7	463	0	0	463	435
Charitable activities	7	150,861	19,182	1,586	171,629	169,739
Other costs	7	780	2,523	0	3,303	18,990
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>152,104</b>	<b>21,705</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>175,395</b>	<b>189,164</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before transfers</b>		<b>3,066</b>	<b>6,570</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>10,583</b>	<b>(6,034)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>926</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>(947)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>3,992</b>	<b>6,591</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,583</b>	<b>(6,034)</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment assets		(2,258)	0	(12,249)	(14,507)	13,355
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>1,734</b>	<b>6,591</b>	<b>(12,249)</b>	<b>(3,924)</b>	<b>7,321</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>132,685</b>	<b>896,708</b>	<b>122,675</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>	<b>1,144,747</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>134,419</b>	<b>903,299</b>	<b>110,426</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>
<b>Broken down as:</b>						
General account fund		134,419	901,514	110,426	1,146,359	1,149,771
Affiliation accounts funds		0	1,785	0	1,785	2,297
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>134,419</b>	<b>903,299</b>	<b>110,426</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Position / (Balance Sheet) as at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	780,000	780,000
Investment Properties	11	110,000	110,000
Investments	12	126,612	141,119
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>1,016,612</u>	<u>1,031,119</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	13	12,201	12,205
Cash and cash equivalents		125,778	119,263
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>137,979</u>	<u>131,468</u>
<b>Creditors – amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	6,447	10,519
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>131,532</u>	<u>120,949</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>1,148,144</u>	<u>1,152,068</u>
<b>The funds of the parish</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	15	130,482	130,613
Designated funds	15	3,937	2,072
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		<u>134,419</u>	<u>132,685</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	15	903,299	896,708
<b>Endowment Funds</b>	15	110,426	122,675
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>1,148,144</u>	<u>1,152,068</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 25 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 25 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

##### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Parish meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

##### b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Parish generally meets its day to day working capital requirements from its annual income. The Trustees have obtained and reviewed cash flow forecasts for the coming year and based on these are satisfied that the Parish has resources to provide a reasonable expectation that it can continue to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. Therefore, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis

##### c) Income

Plate Collections, Weekly Envelopes, Fabric Fund income, Gift Aid and catering income are accounted for on a cash receipts basis as the amount is collected. Any gift aid not received at the year end is included as a debtor.

Income arising from the rental of Parish Centre facilities to third parties is recognised when the parish has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Legacies are included within Income under either unrestricted or restricted funds according to the terms under which the donation is made and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty. Donations and gifts in kind are brought into the accounts at their fair value to the Parish.

##### d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### e) Tangible assets

The assets of the Parish comprise:-

- Church Hall
- Vicarage
- Other property

The Church Buildings at Church Street, Antrim are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These Heritage assets are not included on the balance sheet as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the parish.

The Church Hall is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2022. No depreciation has been provided on the Church Hall as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The Vicarage is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2022. No depreciation has been provided on the Vicarage as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The other property, namely the house at Inishmoyne, is also recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2022. No depreciation has been provided on the house as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

##### f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprising investment properties, investments in equities and investment in RCB/CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each balance sheet date. Investments in unquoted investments are recorded at cost and are assessed annually for impairment. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the fair value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and fair value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year. Both realised and unrealised gains and losses in investments are reported within "Net Gains / (Losses) on Investments" within the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within creditors amounts falling due within 1 year.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### h) Financial instruments

The Parish only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

##### i) Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the Parish.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income there from is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the Parish.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

#### 2. Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Parish's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

#### 3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Weekly envelopes / FWO	103,512	16,181	0	119,693	112,253
Tax recovered on Donations	20,595	3,359	0	23,954	23,182
Collections/donations	7,768	5,275	0	13,043	17,614
Mission and Charity giving	0	1,967	0	1,967	617
Grants	6,188	0	0	6,188	2,921
Other income - affiliations	0	1,189	0	1,189	120
	<u>138,063</u>	<u>27,971</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>166,034</u>	<u>156,707</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Rental Income	7,015	0	0	7,015	6,840
Use of Church hall	6,825	0	0	6,825	4,725
Other	400	0	0	400	150
	<u>14,240</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,240</u>	<u>11,715</u>

5. Investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest on investments	209	0	65	274	123
Dividends from investments	1,438	0	2,468	3,906	4,013
	<u>1,647</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,533</u>	<u>4,180</u>	<u>4,136</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Weddings, baptisms and funerals	1,220	0	0	1,220	310
Catering income	0	0	0	0	245
Publications	0	304	0	304	318
	<u>1,220</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,524</u>	<u>873</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

7. Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Generating funds</b>					
Fundraising costs	<u>463</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>435</u>
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Wages and salaries	90,216	0	0	90,216	102,738
Diocesan costs/assessment	19,870	0	0	19,870	20,485
Property running costs	18,404	0	0	18,404	15,055
Charitable donations	7,800	3,051	100	10,951	5,967
Administration costs	8,057	0	0	8,057	11,123
Property repairs and maintenance	0	11,585	0	11,585	5,995
Congregation running costs	6,502	1,541	0	8,043	5,349
Event expenses and catering	0	1,000	1,486	2,486	2,150
Publications	12	304	0	316	528
Other expenses - affiliations	0	1,701	0	1,701	349
	<u>150,861</u>	<u>19,182</u>	<u>1,586</u>	<u>171,629</u>	<u>169,739</u>
<b>Other costs</b>					
Property improvements and equipment	<u>780</u>	<u>2,523</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,303</u>	<u>18,990</u>

Governance costs are included within Administration costs above.

8. Taxation

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages	87,187	99,941
National insurance costs	167	114
Employer pension costs	2,862	2,683
Total	<u>90,216</u>	<u>102,738</u>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Ministerial support	2	2
Administration	0	1
Other staff	1	1
Premises maintenance	1	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

There are no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**Key Management and Trustees**

Key management are deemed to comprise the Trustees. The parish paid expenses of £5,802 (2021: £3,682) relating to the running costs of the Vicarage which is occupied by the Vicar. The following Trustees received remuneration and/or reimbursement of the following amounts during the year:

	2022	2021
	£	£
The Ven Dr SR McBride	43,177	41,313
Cecil Barton	201	27
Claire Thompson	380	260
David Tate	90	0
Cynthia Cherry	817	0
Irene Gates	179	0
Brian Neill	0	100
Paul Smyth	0	290
Audrey McClements	0	12,922

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Total
	£	£
<b>Cost</b>		
At beginning of the year	780,000	780,000
Additions	0	0
At end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At beginning of the year	0	0
Depreciation	0	0
Disposals	0	0
At end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net book value at beginning of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
Net book value at end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>

11. Investment properties

	£
Balance at beginning of the year	110,000
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
Fair Value Gains / (Losses)	0
Balance at end of the year	<u>110,000</u>

12. Investments

	Listed Investments £	Other Investments £	Total £
Balance at beginning of the year	0	141,119	141,119
Profit/(loss) on investments	0	(14,507)	(14,507)
Balance at end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>126,612</u>	<u>126,612</u>
<b>Analysis of Investments</b>			
Other unlisted investments	0	126,612	126,612
	<u>0</u>	<u>126,612</u>	<u>126,612</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

13. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sundry debtors and prepayments	12,201	12,205
	<u>12,201</u>	<u>12,205</u>

14. Creditors Amounts Due within 1 Year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and other creditors	6,447	10,519
	<u>6,447</u>	<u>10,519</u>

15. Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0	780,000	0	780,000
Investment Property	0	0	110,000	0	110,000
Investments	16,186	0	0	110,426	126,612
Current Assets	119,540	3,937	14,502	0	137,979
Current Liabilities	(5,244)	0	(1,203)	0	(6,447)
<b>Net assets at 31 Dec 2022</b>	<u>130,482</u>	<u>3,937</u>	<u>903,299</u>	<u>110,426</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

16. Funds of the Parish

	At 1 Jan 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Loss on investment assets £	At 31 Dec 2022 £
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
William & Irene Whiteside Trust	20,931	65	(100)	35	(4,913)	16,018
Masserene & Ferrard Trust	101,744	2,468	(1,486)	(982)	(7,336)	94,408
	<u>122,675</u>	<u>2,533</u>	<u>(1,586)</u>	<u>(947)</u>	<u>(12,249)</u>	<u>110,426</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
General Fund	894,411	27,086	(20,004)	21	0	901,514
Affiliation Funds	2,297	1,189	(1,701)	0	0	1,785
	<u>896,708</u>	<u>28,275</u>	<u>(21,705)</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>903,299</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Fund	130,613	151,305	(150,104)	926	(2,258)	130,482
Designated Fund	2,072	3,865	(2,000)	0	0	3,937
	<u>132,685</u>	<u>155,170</u>	<u>(152,104)</u>	<u>926</u>	<u>(2,258)</u>	<u>134,419</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,152,068</u>	<u>185,978</u>	<u>(175,395)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(14,507)</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>

Purposes of Endowment Funds

- Income from the William & Irene Whiteside Trust is to be used to provide Sunday school teaching materials.
- Income from the Masserene & Ferrard Trust is to be used to provide teaching materials and resources for the children of the parish.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

- Fabric Fund: This is a fund to assist with the cost of building repairs, improvements and renovations.
- Affiliation Funds: These are funds for the affiliations' running expenses and income.
- Mission and Charities Fund: This is a fund to be used towards mission and charity
- Church properties: These are properties for the use of the Parish with sale proceeds used strictly for other properties as specified by the RCB.
- Anonymous donations: a donation which is to be used to be used for youth work.
- Donations in memory of Sadie Jenkins: to be used to purchase an item in memory of Sadie Jenkins

**Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101049

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# Annual report

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**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**  
**Annual report and financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2022**

**Charities Number: NIC101049**

**All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

**Annual report and financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022**

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## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **References and administrative details**

Charity Name: All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Charity Registration Number: NIC101049

Contact Address: All Saints' Parish Centre  
Railway Street  
Antrim  
BT41 4AE

### **Trustees**

#### **Trustees from 01-01-2022 – 31-12-2022**

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Lawrence Hutchins, John Wallace, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford and Irene Gates.

#### **Trustees approving this report**

The Ven.Dr S.R. McBride, Sylvia Barton, Cecil Barton, Rev Peter Blake, Brian Neill, Claire Thompson, Jacqueline Adams, William Hurst, Lawrence Hutchins, John Wallace, Paul Smyth, David Tate, Cynthia Cherry, Wendy Smyth, Colin Brooks, Sheila Thompson, Brian Ford and Irene Gates.

### **Principal Office-bearers**

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr David Tate
People's Church Warden:	Mr Lawrence Hutchins

### **Independent Examiner**

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

### **Bankers**

Ulster Bank  
8 Market Square  
Antrim  
BT41 4AT

## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022**

The trustees present the annual report and accounts for All Saints' Parish Church Antrim for the year ended 31 December 2022.

All Saints' Parish Church, Antrim, is situated in the heart of Antrim town, and the Parish Centre is one minute's walk away in Railway Street.

Correspondence can be addressed to:

The Vicar, Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride  
The Vicarage  
10 Vicarage Gardens  
ANTRIM, BT41 4JP

Matters of a financial nature can be addressed to:

Mrs. Brian Neill  
c/o All Saints' Parish Centre  
18 Railway Street  
ANTRIM, BT41 4AE

### **Purpose**

The principal function of the Parish is to support the advancement of the Christian religion by promoting through the work of the Parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, social and ecumenical.

All the functions of the Parish relate to the advancement of religion through holding regular worship and communicating with and caring for parishioners of all ages especially the sick and elderly and others in our community.

The Parish has the custody of many historical items and the maintenance of these and the various buildings is undertaken as a secondary charitable purpose. All properties and other valuable items are fully insured and regularly revalued.

### **Governance, Structure and Management**

#### **Governance**

The principal document for the governance of Antrim Parish is Chapter III of the Constitution of the Church of Ireland, which governs Parishes and Parochial Organisation. Diocesan Regulations are also issued periodically, and these interpret some aspects of the Constitution where that responsibility has been delegated by the General Synod to Diocesan Councils and Synods.

The other major factor in parish governance is civil law, particularly Health and Safety, Child Protection legislation, Safeguarding Trust regulations, and Employment and Management procedures for lay staff. For example, as children and young adults are important in our Charity, we carry out the necessary checks on all youth leaders and we are fully compliant with the Church of Ireland Safeguarding Trust.

A Health and Safety team ensures that the users of the Parish Centre comply with the Conditions of Use and are fully compliant with Fire Evacuation procedures and that all Parish Centre users carry out and adhere to Risk Assessments. Regular Fire Evacuations are carried out in both Church and Parish Centre, and procedures are updated when improvements are recommended.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### Structure

All members of the Church of Ireland who are over the age of 18, and are either resident within the parish or live elsewhere but have been accustomed members of the congregation for at least three months, may register as members of the General Vestry of the parish; this allows them to attend and vote at meetings of the General Vestry and to stand for election to the Select Vestry.

Meetings of the General Vestry are held at least once a year, and at the Annual General Vestry meeting, held at Easter time, the Select Vestry members are elected. The Select Vestry hold their positions for a period of one year. Select Vestry members may be re-elected annually, and there is no limit to the number of terms that they may serve. The members of the Select Vestry make up the Charity Trustees.

#### Trustees:

The Ven. Dr. S. R. McBride Chairman  
Jacqueline Adams  
Cecil Barton  
Sylvia Barton  
Rev Peter Blake  
Colin Brooks  
Cynthia Cherry  
Brian Ford  
Irene Gates

William Hurst  
Lawrence Hutchins  
Brian Neill  
Paul Smyth  
Wendy Smyth  
David Tate  
Claire Thompson  
Sheila Thompson  
John Wallace

#### Management

The Select Vestry meets regularly at times fixed by the members, with the Vicar or the Rev Blake in the Chair. Ad hoc meetings may be called by the Vicar when necessary. Vestry meetings in 2022 were held in person.

The primary responsibility of the Select Vestry is to ensure that the ministry and witness of the Parish is maintained, developed and safeguarded both legally and financially. It has specific responsibility for the administration of the Parish finances and the care of the buildings both internally and externally ("Finance, Fabric and Furnishings"). It is also the legal employer for all lay staff and has responsibility for Health and Safety, insurance and the care of the Parish's assets.

The Select Vestry may delegate responsibility for aspects of its work to persons or to sub-committees, who report back to the Select Vestry. The Finances are managed by the Honorary Treasurer, Mr Brian Neill, who reports back to the other Trustees at Vestry meetings monthly or in-between if necessary. The Trustees are updated with the financial situation at each meeting.

The security and safeguarding of all monies are important to the Trustees and all money is counted under dual control.

The Church of Ireland organises 5-yearly inspections of its buildings which are carried out by a qualified architect or conservation specialist with a qualification in historic buildings conservation. Parishes are supplied with a Quinquennial Inspection Report which may contain recommendations for repairs. As a parish we are diligent in our compliance to carry out the recommend repairs. In recent years, following receipt of our Quinquennial Reports from the Diocesan Surveyor, Chris McCollum, we have undertaken improvements such as the erection of external safety railings, internal balustrading in the church gallery and improvements in the vicarage.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

In view of all the various organisations that utilise the Parish Centre (see Public Benefit section), and events such as funeral teas, a catering team has been formed. The team members all hold HABC Level 2 in Food Safety in Catering, a qualification which is updated regularly. The local Council inspects the premises regularly and we currently have a rating of 5.

#### Principal Office-bearers

Vicar:	Ven. Dr S.R. McBride
Pastoral Administrator:	Rev P Blake
Hon Treasurer:	Mr Brian Neill
Hon Secretary:	Mrs Irene Gates
Vicar's Church Warden:	Mr David Tate
People's Church Warden:	Mr Lawrence Hutchins

#### Independent Examiner

Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson & Wilson, Chartered Accountants  
22/30, Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena. BT43 7AA

#### Bankers

Ulster Bank  
8 Market Square  
Antrim. BT41 4AT

#### Finances

##### *Income*

Our main sources of income, the Freewill Offerings and Fabric Fund donations, have been healthy in 2022. The Freewill Offering (including Gift Aid) totalled £124,107, and Fabric Fund (including Gift Aid) came to £19,540. Taken together, this was £8,211 more than 2021, an increase of just over 6 per cent. It is worth noting that while we have lost loyal parishioners through bereavement, we have attracted new members into the congregation. Loose donations on the collection plate at the Sunday and Wednesday services came to a total of £3,302 (including Gift Aid).

The Parish Centre is used by a number of organisations, including Starburst Theatre School, Slimming World and the Contact Centre. The financial contributions towards the running expenses of the Parish Centre totalled £6,825. A note of caution must be recorded here, as both Slimming World groups have now stopped, which will mean a potential loss of £4,500 in 2023.

A few years ago, the Parish was left a property by a parishioner, and this is rented out; rent for 2022 came to £7,015; expenses (management fees, repairs, insurance and rates) came to £3,646, leaving a balance of £3,369.

The parishioners continue to donate 20p pieces in "Smartie tubes" and these proceeds are sent to CMS to assist projects in the Diocese of northern Zambia; in 2022 the Smartie tubes total was £1,301.

The "Extra Mile" bucket continues to gather in coins, banknotes, and cheques at the back of the church. At the end of 2021 we had been collecting for a project close to home, ie the new WW2 memorial in the Massereene Chapel of our church. In 2022, we decided on a project outside the church but still close to home by supporting the efforts of Women's Aid to provide fuel vouchers for families affected by domestic violence, suffering hardship and fuel stress in our local community. By the end of December, we had raised over £3,800, and when this project comes to an end in February 2023, we hope to have raised close to £4,000.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

A total of £5,375 was donated to the Church by several individuals and families, sometimes in memory of loved ones, to be used for general church purposes or specific purposes such as the purchase of candlesticks for the Massereene Chapel, for the tower repair work, or for projects in Zambia. £500 of this amount was received from Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council to help pay for the Evergreens' Christmas Lunch, and we acknowledge our thanks to the Council for their donation.

#### **Expenditure**

The bulk of our expenditure is on "normal" expected items, such as salaries and wages; utility bills for electricity, gas, oil, water, telephone; buildings and contents insurance; buildings maintenance.

In 2022, there were a few items which were not run-of-the-mill:

January	redundancy package for the Parish Administrator - £3,208
May	payment of £354 to NI Jobs.com to advertise for a new Parish Administrator* payment of £99 to Bridge HR Consulting for advice on job description (*no appointment was made; two members of the Select Vestry volunteered to act as Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer)
July	£840 paid to Diocese of Connor for second year Ordained Local Ministry fees
August	£380 paid to Croft Design for stoles for our soon-to-be-ordained deacon
August	two laptops were purchased for the new office bearers; total £760
September	£1,350 paid for new kitchen range for the vicarage

At the Select Vestry meeting on 26th March 2022, we were advised by Mr Chris McCollum, Historic Building Consultant, about the results of the drone survey carried out on the church roof, tower and spire. Work which needs to be undertaken includes replacement of rain goods (guttering, down pipes etc) on the roof, and repairs to the stonework on the tower, with the North and South Elevations needing major attention. The consultant agreed to review the project and advise on which tasks need to be prioritised, with the earliest work possibly starting in spring 2023. Building costs are continually spiralling, and the parish needs to be thinking about total costs of circa £100,000, which could be split into two or more separate projects. Consideration needs to be given to organisations which might provide grant support.

Two payments have been made to Chris McCollum in 2022:

March	Drone survey of tower and spire £1,815
November	Prepare drawings etc for grant applications £3,257.

#### **Annual donations**

The healthy nature of our finances allowed us to continue our tradition of making Christmas donations to a variety of Church organisations and missions, such as the Chaplaincy at Queen's University, Belfast and the Chaplaincy at the Missions to Seafarers. A thank you letter from the missionary organisation USPG, detailing how one young HIV positive mother in Zambia had been helped to deliver a healthy baby free from HIV, was read to the congregation on Christmas morning.

The first payment of £1,800, to pay the annual tuition fees for two students studying at the Theological College in Zambia, was paid via CMS Ireland in April. We are committed to two more annual payments.

The second of three annual payments of £3,000 each to Muckamore Parish Development Association (as described in last year's report) was made in December, and we will welcome a speaker from MPDA in mid-2023.

The donations described in the last section came to a total of £7,600.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### *In summary*

The financial situation at the end of 2022 is:

Current account	in credit by £27,850.93
Deposit account	in credit by £96,142.44

The Deposit account is designated to cover urgent maintenance and repairs to Church properties as advised by the Diocesan surveyor.

All other Assets and Liabilities are stated in the Annual Report and all properties are vested in the RCB and owned by the Parish. All legitimate invoices and requests for payment in 2022 were paid in full when received. Although our income is below the required level, we have continued to use the accruals accounting system.

#### **Public Benefit**

The charity Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland's guidance on public benefit to ensure that our activities help to achieve the charity's purposes and provide a suitable benefit to the beneficiaries. Our activities, and their benefits, are detailed here.

The charity's main function is the advancement of religion, the provision of spiritual care for the elderly or infirm, and the development of younger people in the community. Regular worship and reaching out into the community as well as other activities both social and fundraising have been carried out through the year to fulfil our statement of Public Benefit.

**Church Services** - the year 2022 continued with government restrictions being adhered to until the beginning of April when there was an easing of Covid-19 mitigations and measures in parishes in Northern Ireland. As a parish, we moved forward cautiously with the lifting of some restrictions at Sunday services, effective from Sunday 3rd April 2022. Also, church service times reverted to 8.30 am and 11.30 am from Sunday 24th April 2022. It continued to be evident how much people appreciated, and benefitted from, being able to worship in person with the reassurance the parish team remained mindful of government updates and guidance.

It has been encouraging to see an increase in the size of our congregation, with several new families from different ethnic backgrounds joining us. A common comment is that an exploratory visit to church had met with such a warm and friendly welcome that the newcomers decided to make All Saints' their place of worship.

**Choir** – the mixed voice parish choir leads the singing at all services, providing special music on feast days and special occasions. Its members range in age from 11 to over 80 years and the choir practices each Sunday morning from 10am to 11am. In October 2022, the choir led the singing at the 'live' Radio Ulster broadcast of Morning Service.

**Flower Guild** – the church Flower Guild is a small group of volunteers who, on a rota basis, arrange fresh flowers for the church each week. This service resumed towards the end of 2022 after Covid-19 restrictions eased and provides an opportunity for parishioners who wish to donate towards church flowers in memory of family members, or to celebrate a special anniversary.

**Wednesday morning services** – a service of Holy Communion continued in 2022, preceded by time for a coffee and chat. There is a regular and faithful group of parishioners who benefit greatly, both spiritually and socially, from the shared experience of the Wednesday morning service.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

**Sunday 18th September** - the ordination of The Rev Claire Thompson, by Bishop George Davison, as Deacon in All Saints' Parish. Claire, who has been a member of All Saints since her birth, will be serving among us in a place which has helped to shape her faith and vocation. Rev Aaron McAlister was the preacher on the day and it was through Aaron and Melanie's friendship with Claire that the final pieces of Claire's vocation were put in place.

In September 2022, parishioners donated a range of items supporting Kenny Campbell to join a convoy of **humanitarian aid** being transported to the Ukrainian border by members of the Harley Owners' Group. This was an initiative of local organisations and businesses, including All Saints' Parish, to send humanitarian aid to those fleeing the turbulent conflict in Ukraine.

**Sunday 13th November** - the Royal British Legion, Antrim Branch held the Remembrance Service in the parish church and involved The Rev Colin McDowell, High Street Presbyterian Church. Readings by: Commander Ian Allen, Royal Navy Reserve, Alderman Paul Michael BEM, RBL, Antrim Branch Chairman. Sermon by The Venerable Dr Stephen McBride (Chaplain to the RBL, Antrim Branch). Act of Remembrance conducted by Canon Sean Emerson, Parish of Antrim. The Exhortation (Standards Dip) by Mr Ron Harrison, Branch President.

**Late evening office and prayer meeting** – every third Sunday evening parishioners are able to participate in this traditional Late Evening Office service including a time of prayer and reflection.

**Unite** - these monthly services provide a relaxed atmosphere and contemporary music, hopefully appealing to the young and young-at-heart. The praise band consists of musicians and singers (of all ages) from our own congregation led by two members of neighbouring St Jude's parish. This service continues as a permanent feature of the parish.

All activities shared with the other churches in the area throughout the year, such as the mid-week Lenten Deanery services, the cross-denominational Holy Week evening services, the 'Walk for Witness' on Good Friday and the Easter Sunday morning service at the Lough Shore resumed in 2022. The re-introduction of these events helped develop a renewed sense of shared community, benefitting the local and surrounding area.

**Electronic Tablets** – This facility, for parishioners without internet access who cannot attend church in person, has continued throughout the year. A team of volunteers download the Sunday service on to the tablets, distribute them at the start of the week, and collect them again later in the week. This continues to be hugely appreciated, and as well as allowing parishioners to "attend church", many new friendships were formed on the doorsteps as tablets were delivered and collected.

**Bible Study** - continued during the year, based on 'The Chosen' series, a powerful retelling of the story of Jesus and his followers, providing a platform for considerable thought and discussion for those attending. The bible studies were open to all parishioners and aimed to provide a social element as well as the opportunity to explore how religion can have a beneficial impact on our daily lives.

With the lifting of Covid restrictions, the clergy team was able to resume a rolling programme of home and hospital visits, checking on the wellbeing of parishioners, encouraging a continued or renewed participation in parish life, and administering Holy Communion to the housebound or hospitalised.

Attendance at assembly in the local primary school to share the Christian message with pupils was resumed in May 2022; likewise the pastoral visits by parishioners to the housebound and people in Nursing Homes. These visits bring comfort and a sense of belonging, important to people who otherwise may feel lonely and isolated, and in their absence many parishioners responded by establishing regular telephone contact with other parishioners, checking on their physical and emotional health, and offering practical help with shopping and

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

other errands; one parishioner commented, "In these troubled times, the congregation had pulled together as one big family". Thankfully, with the lifting of Covid restrictions, pastoral visits have been re-established.

#### The Parish Centre

All Saints' Parish Centre is located in the centre of Antrim town, providing a venue used by both parish groups and external organisations from the local and surrounding community.

**Next Steps** - this group consists of young adults from 11 years up to 18 years, meeting on a Sunday evening, from September to June, for fun, food and fellowship. The parish finances Next Steps to enable them to take part in Diocesan events such as 'Connor Takes the Castle' and other outings. Next Steps is a group aimed at helping young people to build new friendships and explore faith in an appropriate and encouraging way.

Parish Youth groups are open and welcoming to all young people in the area, catering for all ages, and are well attended; indeed, at times a waiting list for new members has to be in place. The groups are made up of young people of diverse backgrounds, and all are made welcome.

**Scouts** - 5th Antrim Scouts meet every Tuesday evening from September to June. The Scouts cater for young adults between the ages of 10½ to 14½ years and the Explorer Scouts cater for those aged between 14½ and 18 years.

Scouts and Explorer Scouts take part in a programme which enables members to find out about the world in which they live, encourages them to know their own abilities and the importance of keeping fit. The structured badge work helps develop their creative talents and it also provides opportunities to explore their own values and personal attitudes. Scouting is about being with friends, as part of a team, and participating fully in the adventure and opportunities of life. Scouting encourages members to look beyond themselves and we have been involved in activities to raise funds for local charities such as Lough Neagh Rescue.

When weather permits, activities have a focus on the outdoors in preparation for camp which is held under canvas. Scouts learn how to pitch tents, camp safely, prepare a menu for their fellow scouts, incorporating items such as food hygiene, safe storage of foods, vermin control, country code, fire safety and first aid.

**Beavers/Cubs** - there were seven Beavers (girls and boys aged 5yrs 10 months to 7years 11 months) when the Section started back in March 2022 after a Covid-19 break. There were three female leaders (for two this was the first time that they had become community volunteers), one male leader and two Explorer Scouts who were given the opportunity to increase their leadership skills in Young Leader roles. Badges covered included money skills, science and gardening, including planting a flower bed at the rear entrance of the Parish Centre. Many games were played and fun was had, allowing the young people to reconnect with those of the same age and develop social skills lost during the Covid-19 pandemic.

There were fourteen Cubs (a mixture of girls and boys from various faiths, aged 8 – 11 years) in March 2022, but this had dropped to ten by December 2022 due to those older Cubs moving up to the Scouts section. The leadership team consisted of two adult female leaders and one adult male leader. Many challenge badges were covered during the year including camping, crafts, local knowledge, model making, emergency aid, athletics and book reading. Seven Silver Awards were attained – the highest award able to be achieved at this level of Scouting. It was decided to hold extra outdoor Cub sessions during the summer months. This gave the opportunity to learn about outdoor skills including tent erection and care, orienteering and local knowledge. These activities resulted in the Cubs feeling pride and ownership of the natural beauty and heritage of their own community and led them to do regular litter-picks in the Castle Gardens, Lough Shore, and the area around the Parish Centre. Various Cubs also participated in District events such as a colour run, district hike, and challenge night.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

The Cubs also helped to plant a woodland to celebrate the Group's tenth anniversary, renewed their promise in British Sign Language, helped to raise items to be sent to Ukraine, and participated in a Christmas family celebration. All leaders in the section renewed their first aid training. The outcome of all these activities was that the Cubs learned valuable life skills, gaining confidence by being encouraged to challenge themselves in a safe environment.

**Brownies** – 2022 was a successful year for this organisation, with numbers nearly doubling. Brownies cater for girls aged between 7 and 10 years, when the girls can then move on to Guides. They met regularly in the Parish Centre where they were offered a wide range of activities to help the girls learn new skills, encourage them to try new activities and to work in groups. Some of these included art, dance, action activities and sport.

Over the past year Brownies celebrated the Queen's jubilee, taking the opportunity of meeting up with other Brownies and Guides to celebrate. The girls also sent cards they made to the Queen and received a letter back – a lovely memento for each girl. On the sad passing of the Queen, we discussed the Queen's service to the country and her involvement in guiding. During the year brownies took part in the adventure skill builder 2 and several girls earned theme badges and some are working towards the theme award associated with first aid response. In 2022 the girls made and sold keyrings as a fundraising project; the money raised was equally divided between a donation to Brain Tumour Research and to help Brownie funds.

**Rainbows** - started up again in October after the Covid restrictions were eased. They met on Monday evenings in the Parish Centre, catering for girls aged between 4 and 7 years, enjoying different crafts and games each week. The girls started their storytelling, agility, and healthy mind badges. These tasks alternate weekly and help the girls to develop useful life skills in a fun way.

**The Funday Club** - for children of Primary School age, resumed in September 2022 in the Parish Centre, at 12.00 pm until approximately 12.45 pm, except for the third Sunday of the month due to the Family service which the children are encouraged to attend with their families. We regularly have between 10-20 children aged 4 to 13 years who come along to learn about God and have some fun, including a range of activities such as:

- Song and dance to children's worship songs.
- Fun games such as individual and team games which link to our bible story.
- Listen to bible stories and watch short videos of the stories
- Create some crafts which relate to the bible story.
- Group discussions
- Take part in quizzes which are related to the bible stories.
- Learn about other countries and world issues such as famine

Every year, the Funday club children can take part in the Christmas Nativity play which is performed during the Christmas morning service. Last year they also received invitations to the youth organisations' 'movie and games night' where they watched 'Elf', played games, and enjoyed snacks.

Each year the children are invited to attend the Holiday Bible club for a week in the month of August where they enjoy fun, games, craft, songs and learn about Jesus. Each year follows a different theme. In 2022 the theme was 'Jungle Jamboree' and several Funday club children attended. This club is also open to all young children of primary school age from the local community.

The Funday Club is of great benefit to children as they enjoy fellowship together, learn how God can have an impact on their life and feel free to discuss issues and ask questions. They also are learning skills of turn taking, talking and listening and working with others. Parents of the children have the opportunity to focus on the church service knowing that their children are being looked after and also learning about the Christian life. It is also beneficial for the leaders as they enjoy the interaction with the children and feel that they are having a positive impact on the life of the church.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

The organisations mentioned above are open not only to young people of our parish, but to children of all denominations (or none), with each organisation meeting from September to June on their allocated evening. We hope that by enjoying events in the Parish Centre, the young people can be attracted to our church worship as well.

**The Inbetweeners** - an occasional social group for adults aged 20-50+ to enjoy a good night out together in a relaxed setting. Activities have included meals out, Go Karting and quiz nights. The Inbetweeners provides an opportunity for adults to develop deeper, supportive friendships with likeminded people.

**The Evergreens** - a group for the over 50s, meets monthly, with a guest speaker covering a wide range of topics, followed by lunch. There is also an outing in the summer and a party at Christmas time. Townspeople who are not parishioners regularly attend the Evergreens. With the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions in 2022 there was a welcome return of these Evergreen events, held in a Christian atmosphere, helping foster meaningful friendships and a sense of shared community.

**Tots 'n' Us** – each week during school term time, volunteers in our Parish run Tots 'n' Us for parents/carers and their youngsters. The volunteers are a very welcoming group who reach out to our local community, and as a result we have parents and carers from different faiths and cultures. All are treated equally, and respect is shown to all beliefs and lifestyle choices. Approximately 25-35 adults attend regularly with their children. A different craft activity is offered each week, and there are ample toys to amuse and educate the children. The children develop social skills which will help them transition to Nursery school, and at the same time the adults have time to relax and build friendships.

**Mothers' Union** - the branch meetings of All Saints' Mother Union are held every second Thursday of the month – excluding the summer months. Members range in age from 40 years to approximately 98 years. During 2022, the speakers covered a wide range of interesting topics from Woman's Aid; local Council on recycling waste; the life of Amy Carmichael; Church Ministry; Fun Night with the 'Panel'.

A day outing was held in May to a Flower Festival at Castlerock, shopping in Coleraine and a carvery meal at Tullyglass Hotel. Friends from outside the parish joined us and also enjoyed the day trip. An afternoon trip in December to a Christmas Tree Festival and tea at Ballycastle was also appreciated. Other Mothers' Union events during the year included a Tea Party with Muckamore branch, Area Service in St Patrick's, Ballymena; Festival Service at St Anne's Cathedral, Belfast and the Annual Gathering at the Waterfront Hall, Belfast which was an opportunity to meet members from across Britain and Ireland and to hear the tremendous work by MU members worldwide.

All Saints' Mothers' Union members enjoy attending the meetings, the cup of tea and the chat with friends. They are also always ready to volunteer their assistance at the many events in the parish.

**Bowling Club** - meets on a Wednesday night in the Parish Centre. The club is open to anyone who would enjoy a good night's fun and fellowship, whether they have played bowls before or not. Due to the Covid pandemic the club paused its participation in the churches league matches to concentrate on fun bowls each week.

In association with the Oasis Group, the parish has been joining with churches in Antrim to support the **Food Bank project** which has provided much needed practical care for families in the Antrim area who are enduring difficult times.

**Saints Alive** – a quarterly magazine is produced and distributed to parishioners, informing them of all activities in the Parish. From December 2022, a weekly News Sheet has been produced for circulation at Morning Service to keep parishioners up to date with current and future events happening in the parish. The News Sheet also includes weekly bible readings.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Trustees' Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### Heritage

All Saints' Parish Church in Antrim was built in 1596 and has been described by Dr Paul Larmour, one of Ireland's leading architectural historians, as the finest example of an Elizabethan Gothic church in Ireland.

The church building continues to be the central focus for any major acts of civic worship, the most recent being a service of commemoration following the death of Queen Elizabeth II in September 2022, at which the mayor and representatives of the Council attended.

Although the physical building is over 425 years old and has been the focal point in the lives of so many people, we are grateful that it continues to be a place where the living stones, the disciples of Jesus, still come to worship and receive their spiritual guidance and direction. We take seriously our duty with regards the safe keeping of parish records and items of historical interest, and these can be viewed on request by interested parties.

**In conclusion**, All Saints' is a thriving and vibrant church, with an industrious clergy team and church services well attended. The parish is in a sound financial position, and this report aims to cover examples of the activities of life and worship that goes on in the church enabled by a wide range of volunteers.

Our links with local churches help to ensure the Christian religion continues to thrive throughout the Antrim area. Antrim was once statistically Northern Ireland's, most sectarian town. Thankfully, through the lead of several local churches including All Saints, initiatives such as the Borough's Community Safety Partnership and the Civic Forum (which dealt with flags and emblems issues), the town is a more settled area and incidents of a sectarian nature have diminished.

The clergy and parishioners within the town continue to meet regularly and the Good Friday Walk of witness's impact has not dwindled after a period of almost twenty years and two years of Covid. This year, even with Covid restrictions not allowing us to visit the inside of our churches along the walk, we had upwards of 300 people gather in the Castle Gardens at the end of our walk.

We appreciate the tremendous efforts of our clergy and acknowledge how they strive to keep pushing forward and developing ways to attract more people of all ages into following the way of Christ.

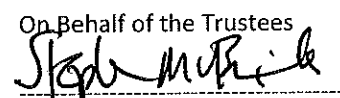
#### **Statement as to disclosure to our examiners**

In so far as the trustees are aware at the timing of approving our trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information of which the Independent Examiner is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the charity's independent examiner is aware of that information.

#### **Independent Examiners**

The examiner, Ian Johnston (A.F.A.), for and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants, has indicated his willingness to continue in office, and a resolution concerning the reappointment was agreed by the Vestry on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

On Behalf of the Trustees  


Ven. Dr S.R. McBride  
Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Independent Examiners Report to the charity trustees of All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 15 to 25.

#### Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income</b>						
Donations & legacies	3	138,063	27,971	0	166,034	156,707
Other trading activities	4	14,240	0	0	14,240	11,715
Investments	5	1,647	0	2,533	4,180	4,136
Charitable activities	6	1,220	304	0	1,524	873
Other income		0	0	0	0	9,699
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>155,170</b>	<b>28,275</b>	<b>2,533</b>	<b>185,978</b>	<b>183,130</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Generating funds	7	463	0	0	463	435
Charitable activities	7	150,861	19,182	1,586	171,629	169,739
Other costs	7	780	2,523	0	3,303	18,990
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>152,104</b>	<b>21,705</b>	<b>1,586</b>	<b>175,395</b>	<b>189,164</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before transfers</b>		<b>3,066</b>	<b>6,570</b>	<b>947</b>	<b>10,583</b>	<b>(6,034)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>		<b>926</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>(947)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Net Income/ (Expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>3,992</b>	<b>6,591</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,583</b>	<b>(6,034)</b>
Gain/(loss) on investment assets		(2,258)	0	(12,249)	(14,507)	13,355
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>1,734</b>	<b>6,591</b>	<b>(12,249)</b>	<b>(3,924)</b>	<b>7,321</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<b>132,685</b>	<b>896,708</b>	<b>122,675</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>	<b>1,144,747</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>134,419</b>	<b>903,299</b>	<b>110,426</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>
<b>Broken down as:</b>						
General account fund		134,419	901,514	110,426	1,146,359	1,149,771
Affiliation accounts funds		0	1,785	0	1,785	2,297
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>134,419</b>	<b>903,299</b>	<b>110,426</b>	<b>1,148,144</b>	<b>1,152,068</b>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Statement of Financial Position / (Balance Sheet) as at 31 December 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	780,000	780,000
Investment Properties	11	110,000	110,000
Investments	12	126,612	141,119
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<u>1,016,612</u>	<u>1,031,119</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Debtors	13	12,201	12,205
Cash and cash equivalents		125,778	119,263
<b>Total current assets</b>		<u>137,979</u>	<u>131,468</u>
<b>Creditors – amounts falling due within one year</b>	14	6,447	10,519
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>131,532</u>	<u>120,949</u>
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<u>1,148,144</u>	<u>1,152,068</u>
<b>The funds of the parish</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>			
General funds	15	130,482	130,613
Designated funds	15	3,937	2,072
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>		<u>134,419</u>	<u>132,685</u>
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	15	903,299	896,708
<b>Endowment Funds</b>	15	110,426	122,675
<b>Total charity funds</b>		<u>1,148,144</u>	<u>1,152,068</u>

The notes on pages 17 to 25 are an integral part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 25 were approved by the Board of Trustees on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



Ven. Dr S.R. McBride



Mr Brian Neill (Hon Treasurer)

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1. Accounting policies

The principal accounting policies adopted, judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty in the preparation of the financial statements are as follows:

##### a) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) – (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Parish meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost and transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy note(s).

##### b) Preparation of accounts on a going concern basis

The Parish generally meets its day to day working capital requirements from its annual income. The Trustees have obtained and reviewed cash flow forecasts for the coming year and based on these are satisfied that the Parish has resources to provide a reasonable expectation that it can continue to meet its financial obligations as they fall due for the foreseeable future. Therefore, these financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis

##### c) Income

Plate Collections, Weekly Envelopes, Fabric Fund income, Gift Aid and catering income are accounted for on a cash receipts basis as the amount is collected. Any gift aid not received at the year end is included as a debtor.

Income arising from the rental of Parish Centre facilities to third parties is recognised when the parish has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

Legacies are included within Income under either unrestricted or restricted funds according to the terms under which the donation is made and when the amount can be quantified with reasonable certainty. Donations and gifts in kind are brought into the accounts at their fair value to the Parish.

##### d) Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Irrecoverable VAT is charged as a cost against the activity for which the expenditure was incurred.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### e) Tangible assets

The assets of the Parish comprise:-

- Church Hall
- Vicarage
- Other property

The Church Buildings at Church Street, Antrim are deemed to be Heritage assets as defined by the Charities SORP (FRS102). These Heritage assets are not included on the balance sheet as information on the cost or valuation is not available and such information cannot be obtained at a cost commensurate with the benefit to the users of the accounts and to the parish.

The Church Hall is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2022. No depreciation has been provided on the Church Hall as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The Vicarage is recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2022. No depreciation has been provided on the Vicarage as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

The other property, namely the house at Inishmoyne, is also recognised at cost / deemed cost, being the estimated fair value of the property at 31 December 2022. No depreciation has been provided on the house as the current estimated residual value is not less than its carrying value and the remaining useful life currently exceeds 50 years.

##### f) Investments

Fixed asset investments comprising investment properties, investments in equities and investment in RCB/CIT Unit Trusts are initially recorded at cost and are then subsequently stated at fair value at each balance sheet date. Investments in unquoted investments are recorded at cost and are assessed annually for impairment. Unrealised gains and losses represent the difference between the fair value at the beginning and end of the financial year or, if purchased in the year, the difference between cost and fair value at the end of the year. Realised gains and losses represent the difference between the proceeds on disposal and the fair value at the start of the year or cost if purchased in the year. Both realised and unrealised gains and losses in investments are reported within "Net Gains / (Losses) on Investments" within the Statement of Financial Activities.

##### g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within creditors amounts falling due within 1 year.

## All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

### Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### h) Financial instruments

The Parish only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction price and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

##### i) Funds

Funds are classified as either restricted funds or unrestricted funds, defined as follows.

Restricted funds are funds subject to specific requirements as to their use which may be declared by the donor or with their authority or created through legal processes, but still within the wider objects of the Parish.

Endowment funds are funds which have been given on the condition that the original capital sum is not reduced, but the income there from is used for the purpose defined in accordance with the objects of the Parish.

Unrestricted funds are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. If parts of the unrestricted funds are earmarked at the discretion of the trustees for a particular purpose, they are designated as a separate fund. This designation has an administrative purpose only and does not legally restrict the trustees' discretion to apply the fund.

#### 2. Critical accounting judgements and estimation uncertainty

Estimates and judgments made in the process of preparing the financial statements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The Trustees do not consider that there are any critical judgments made in applying the Parish's accounting policies or that there are any critical accounting estimates or assumptions which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

#### 3. Donations and legacies

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Weekly envelopes / FWO	103,512	16,181	0	119,693	112,253
Tax recovered on Donations	20,595	3,359	0	23,954	23,182
Collections/donations	7,768	5,275	0	13,043	17,614
Mission and Charity giving	0	1,967	0	1,967	617
Grants	6,188	0	0	6,188	2,921
Other income - affiliations	0	1,189	0	1,189	120
	<u>138,063</u>	<u>27,971</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>166,034</u>	<u>156,707</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Rental Income	7,015	0	0	7,015	6,840
Use of Church hall	6,825	0	0	6,825	4,725
Other	400	0	0	400	150
	<u>14,240</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>14,240</u>	<u>11,715</u>

5. Investments

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Interest on investments	209	0	65	274	123
Dividends from investments	1,438	0	2,468	3,906	4,013
	<u>1,647</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,533</u>	<u>4,180</u>	<u>4,136</u>

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Weddings, baptisms and funerals	1,220	0	0	1,220	310
Catering income	0	0	0	0	245
Publications	0	304	0	304	318
	<u>1,220</u>	<u>304</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,524</u>	<u>873</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

7. Analysis of Expenditure

	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Endowment Funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Generating funds</b>					
Fundraising costs	<u>463</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>435</u>
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Wages and salaries	90,216	0	0	90,216	102,738
Diocesan costs/assessment	19,870	0	0	19,870	20,485
Property running costs	18,404	0	0	18,404	15,055
Charitable donations	7,800	3,051	100	10,951	5,967
Administration costs	8,057	0	0	8,057	11,123
Property repairs and maintenance	0	11,585	0	11,585	5,995
Congregation running costs	6,502	1,541	0	8,043	5,349
Event expenses and catering	0	1,000	1,486	2,486	2,150
Publications	12	304	0	316	528
Other expenses - affiliations	0	1,701	0	1,701	349
	<u>150,861</u>	<u>19,182</u>	<u>1,586</u>	<u>171,629</u>	<u>169,739</u>
<b>Other costs</b>					
Property improvements and equipment	<u>780</u>	<u>2,523</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>3,303</u>	<u>18,990</u>

Governance costs are included within Administration costs above.

8. Taxation

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim is recognised as a charity for the purposes of applicable taxation legislation and is therefore not subject to taxation on its charitable activities.

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

9. Analysis of staff costs, trustee remuneration and expenses, and the cost of key management personnel

	2022	2021
	£	£
Salaries and wages	87,187	99,941
National insurance costs	167	114
Employer pension costs	2,862	2,683
Total	<u>90,216</u>	<u>102,738</u>

The average number of employees during the year, calculated on the basis of a head count, was as follows:

	2022	2021
	Number	Number
Ministerial support	2	2
Administration	0	1
Other staff	1	1
Premises maintenance	1	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

There are no employees in receipt of employee benefits in excess of £60,000.

**Key Management and Trustees**

Key management are deemed to comprise the Trustees. The parish paid expenses of £5,802 (2021: £3,682) relating to the running costs of the Vicarage which is occupied by the Vicar. The following Trustees received remuneration and/or reimbursement of the following amounts during the year:

	2022	2021
	£	£
The Ven Dr SR McBride	43,177	41,313
Cecil Barton	201	27
Claire Thompson	380	260
David Tate	90	0
Cynthia Cherry	817	0
Irene Gates	179	0
Brian Neill	0	100
Paul Smyth	0	290
Audrey McClements	0	12,922

No trustee or a person related to a trustee had any personal interest in any contract or transaction entered into by the charity during the year.

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

10. Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Total
	£	£
<b>Cost</b>		
At beginning of the year	780,000	780,000
Additions	0	0
At end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>		
At beginning of the year	0	0
Depreciation	0	0
Disposals	0	0
At end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net book value at beginning of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>
Net book value at end of the year	<u>780,000</u>	<u>780,000</u>

11. Investment properties

	£
Balance at beginning of the year	110,000
Additions during the year	0
Disposals during the year	0
Fair Value Gains / (Losses)	0
Balance at end of the year	<u>110,000</u>

12. Investments

	Listed Investments £	Other Investments £	Total £
Balance at beginning of the year	0	141,119	141,119
Profit/(loss) on investments	0	(14,507)	(14,507)
Balance at end of the year	<u>0</u>	<u>126,612</u>	<u>126,612</u>
<b>Analysis of Investments</b>			
Other unlisted investments	0	126,612	126,612
	<u>0</u>	<u>126,612</u>	<u>126,612</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

13. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Sundry debtors and prepayments	12,201	12,205
	<u>12,201</u>	<u>12,205</u>

14. Creditors Amounts Due within 1 Year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Accruals and other creditors	6,447	10,519
	<u>6,447</u>	<u>10,519</u>

15. Analysis of Net Assets Among Funds

	General	Designated	Restricted	Endowment	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0	780,000	0	780,000
Investment Property	0	0	110,000	0	110,000
Investments	16,186	0	0	110,426	126,612
Current Assets	119,540	3,937	14,502	0	137,979
Current Liabilities	(5,244)	0	(1,203)	0	(6,447)
<b>Net assets at 31 Dec 2022</b>	<u>130,482</u>	<u>3,937</u>	<u>903,299</u>	<u>110,426</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>

All Saints' Parish Church Antrim

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022 (continued)

16. Funds of the Parish

	At 1 Jan 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Loss on investment assets £	At 31 Dec 2022 £
<b>Endowment funds</b>						
William & Irene Whiteside Trust	20,931	65	(100)	35	(4,913)	16,018
Masserene & Ferrard Trust	101,744	2,468	(1,486)	(982)	(7,336)	94,408
	<u>122,675</u>	<u>2,533</u>	<u>(1,586)</u>	<u>(947)</u>	<u>(12,249)</u>	<u>110,426</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
General Fund	894,411	27,086	(20,004)	21	0	901,514
Affiliation Funds	2,297	1,189	(1,701)	0	0	1,785
	<u>896,708</u>	<u>28,275</u>	<u>(21,705)</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>903,299</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Fund	130,613	151,305	(150,104)	926	(2,258)	130,482
Designated Fund	2,072	3,865	(2,000)	0	0	3,937
	<u>132,685</u>	<u>155,170</u>	<u>(152,104)</u>	<u>926</u>	<u>(2,258)</u>	<u>134,419</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>1,152,068</u>	<u>185,978</u>	<u>(175,395)</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>(14,507)</u>	<u>1,148,144</u>

Purposes of Endowment Funds

- Income from the William & Irene Whiteside Trust is to be used to provide Sunday school teaching materials.
- Income from the Masserene & Ferrard Trust is to be used to provide teaching materials and resources for the children of the parish.

Purposes of Restricted Funds

- Fabric Fund: This is a fund to assist with the cost of building repairs, improvements and renovations.
- Affiliation Funds: These are funds for the affiliations' running expenses and income.
- Mission and Charities Fund: This is a fund to be used towards mission and charity
- Church properties: These are properties for the use of the Parish with sale proceeds used strictly for other properties as specified by the RCB.
- Anonymous donations: a donation which is to be used to be used for youth work.
- Donations in memory of Sadie Jenkins: to be used to purchase an item in memory of Sadie Jenkins

**Antrim/All Saints/Connor/Church of Ireland**

Northern Ireland - Charity number 101049

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# Annual return

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## **All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

### **Independent Examiners Report to the charity trustees of All Saints' Parish Church Antrim**

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022, which are set out on pages 15 to 25.

#### **Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner**

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

#### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

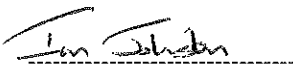
My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

#### **Independent examiner's statement**

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.



Ian Johnston (A.F.A.)  
For and on behalf of Stevenson and Wilson Chartered Accountants  
22 – 30 Broadway Avenue  
Ballymena  
BT43 7AA

Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023